



Dear Parents/Carers,

I think you will agree that this edition of the Newsletter is bulging with wonderful accounts of all the things that our students have been getting up to in the last few weeks. It's great to see such a varied and vibrant array of enrichment going on, and I thank the staff who generously give their time to make these things possible. I hope that your child has had a productive and rewarding year at BUCHS. Despite the weather, we have been able to have our Sports Day and Sponsored Walk, not to mention the Cheerleading scheduled for the final day. Thank you for your support during the year.

You will see in this Newsletter a list of the staff who are leaving us this summer and I have included a particular mention of Mrs Corless. As ever, the end of the year is bitter-sweet as we say goodbye to colleagues, but we look forward to welcoming new arrivals into our BUCHS community in September.

I hope you and your families enjoy a peaceful and relaxing summer break.

Dr Richard Wilkin MA, EdD, Headteacher

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Please see below details of staff who are leaving us at the end of this academic year:

**Teaching Staff**

- Miss Ball
- Mrs Corless
- Mrs Duggal
- Mrs Ereku
- Mrs Read
- Ms Wood
- Mrs Yates

**Support Staff**

- From our catering team
- Mrs Gredley
- Mrs Maclennan

**Vacancies**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We will shortly be advertising for a few support staff roles for September including for our catering team. You can access our current vacancies via the following link:

[Your Search Results \(essexschoolsjobs.co.uk\)](https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk)

or email your cv to [mfreeman@buch.sco.uk](mailto:mfreeman@buch.sco.uk)

BUCHS is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its students and expects all its employees to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

**Attention Parents/Carers of Leavers - Student Fund**

Please be reminded that if you have a standing order set up with us for the Student Fund and your child is not returning back to school, can you please cancel it with your bank.

**Second Hand Uniform Donations Needed**

The school would welcome donations of pre-loved uniform suitable for Years 7-11 in good, used condition.

Items can be handed in at reception.

If donating school blouses, please ensure these are of the plain, yellow type and not the striped version.

**Many thanks**





## Mrs Angela Corless

At the end of this term we say a very fond farewell to Mrs Corless. Mrs Corless has decided to move to the north west of England, where her husband has taken on a secondary school headship.

Mrs Corless joined Brentwood Ursuline in 2010, having been Head of Sixth Form at the Campion School; prior to that, she had built her career in a variety of schools in both Northern Ireland and England.

Mrs Corless' expertise as a music teacher meant that she has made a huge contribution to the cultural life of Brentwood Ursuline over the years. Her training of music groups, her classroom teaching at GCSE and A level and her tireless support for successive Heads of Music have ensured that music remains a key part of the life of the school.

It is as Deputy Headteacher, however, that Mrs Corless has had her greatest impact. Successive cohorts of students have benefitted from her high standards in every facet of school life, be that uniform, punctuality, behaviour or academic performance. Mrs Corless has never lowered her expectations and we can see from the consistently excellent Ofsted and CSI inspection reports that the pastoral life of the school has been a real strength under her leadership.

Countless students and staff have benefitted from the way that Mrs Corless has supported them on a one to one basis; she has been a model of how to live out our motto of 'Duty' and she will be greatly missed by all of us at Brentwood Ursuline.

Our prayers and good wishes go with her as she continues her work as a Catholic Schools Inspector in the north west: it is good that Catholic education will continue to benefit from her wisdom and insight.



## **YEAR 7 OPEN EVENING**

**Thursday 26th September 2024**

**6.30 – 9.00pm**

**Headteacher's talks at 6.30pm and 7.30pm**

**OPEN MORNINGS**

**Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th October 2024**

**9.30am -11.30am**

**By appointment only**

Please note there is no onsite parking for these events

**Queen's Road  
Brentwood  
Essex  
CM14 4EX**

**01277 227156  
admin@buchs.co.uk  
www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk**



**'The quality of education is outstanding, including in the Sixth Form'**

**Ofsted 2023**

## **Sixth Form Open Evening**

**Thursday 24th October 2024**

**6.30 – 8.30pm**

**Headteacher's talk at 6.30pm**

Please note there is no onsite parking for this event





### Curriculum Extension Day 3

Wednesday 19th June was the final Curriculum Extension Day of this academic year and, as usual, a varied programme saw BUCHS students participate in activities on and offsite.

Groups across years 7-12 attended the District Sports event at Melbourne Park, and Year 12 travelled to the University of Suffolk to learn about university life.

At school, Year 7 joined in with activities related to Tudor Britain including a 'Happening History' workshop, masterclasses in Tudor Medicine, Heraldry, Dance and Fashion and Mr Earle and Mr Hammons ran a Tudor themed murder mystery!

Year 8 took part in classes focussed on First Aid and safety, mini enterprise and GCSE preparation.

Year 9 enjoyed a day themed around refugees. This included group work in the Chapel in response to a guest speaker from the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP.) See photos below and right.





### Curriculum Extension Day 3 Continued

The Year 9 Curriculum Extension Day, this year organised by the RE Department, was focused on the theme of 'Kindness.' With the day falling during Refugee Week, all activities were designed to help students consider the Christian response to refugees. Using the school grounds, Year 9s participated in CAFOD's 'On the Move,' an activity based around the journey of refugees with a shelter building activity, whilst in the chapel, students listened to visitors from SVP share how their organisation supports refugees and their families.

Many students said the day went beyond their expectations and allowed them to understand the difficulties that refugees face, and their creative work based on prayer with the SVP has been turned into an excellent display in the RE corridor by our Year 12 Religious Studies Prefect, Grace.

What Year 9 said:

"It was creative and gave me more of an understanding of and insight into other people's lives."

"I found the SVP talk very interesting and I learned a lot!"

"Trying to build shelters put into perspective how lucky we are to be in a situation where we never have to worry about where we live or sleep."

"It was brilliant!"

Year 9 were a credit to themselves and to the school on the day – thank you to all who participated!

Mr Walker, Head of RE



The display we made with the resources created on the day



### Curriculum Extension Day 3 Continued

'On the third Curriculum Extension Day of the year, Year 12 students visited the University of Suffolk for a trip to a campus university.

The University were very welcoming and provided a tour of the campus; they also let students take part in two seminars led by university lecturers, as well as experience a briefing and lunch in a university lecture theatre.

In the morning, 18 students took part in a Psychology seminar; 20 pupils opted for English, with a lesson focused on Queer poetry; 6 students took part in a Sports Science session focused on blood pressure, and the most popular lesson was one in Diagnostic Radiography, where 34 students were shown the process of X-rays.

The afternoon lessons saw 18 students attending a session on Physiotherapy, where they got to identify and use some key equipment used in the profession; 26 students took part in a Business seminar on creating a digital business; 22 students chose to investigate the topic of human rights further with a Law session and 12 pupils attended a lesson on Adult Nursing, allowing them to see some of the key medical facilities and equipment that are used at the university.

Overall, the students found the day a positive experience, especially as they consider university course options and prepare their UCAS applications with the support of the school. '

Mr Giles, Director of Sixth Form





## History



### History Detectives Club

This term, some Year 7 students have participated in History Detectives Club, in which they aim to research and analyse evidence in order to solve and find answers to historical mysteries. In particular, students are encouraged to form their own opinions and challenge past or contemporary ideas and theories.

The mysteries that have been covered in the club so far have included:

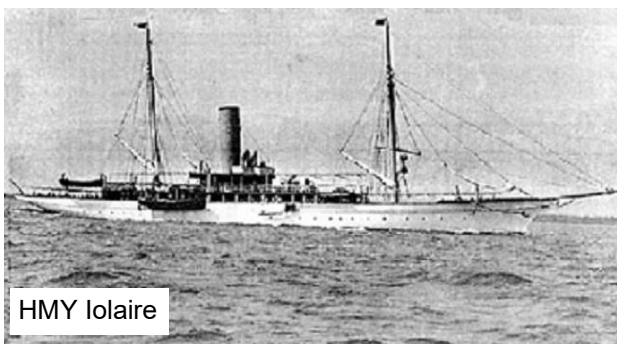
- Who was responsible for the death of JFK?
- What happened to the princes in the tower?
- What was life like for those living in Axis countries during the Second World War?
- What happened to the HMY Iolaire?

The students have been bringing along their own ideas, coming up with their own conclusions and getting involved in research. Sessions have included debates and a Kahoot on the Princes in the Tower. Ivanna in 7A did some outstanding research and created a session for the group about World War II and life for those in Axis countries.

Iona from 7B researched in great depth and created a session looking into the HMY Iolaire, a naval ship that sank near Stornoway in January 1919, that included research into her own family history.

"I enjoyed the WW2 session from a German perspective. I learnt about another person's point of view, not just England's, which was fun." Kristen, 7J

Emily, 12.2, History Prefect





## History Continued

### GCSE: The Impact of Migration on British Cities

As part of their GCSE studies on the impact of migration on the UK, class 901 have researched a number of British cities to find out about the influence of migrants on the local economy and culture.

The cities that they produced presentations on were Bristol, Cardiff, Leicester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester and Glasgow.

Awura and Annamaria made cookies as part of their presentation. Esther made and iced some cakes for Birmingham. Cassy made a diorama to show the impact of migration on the British High Street. Folashade made some traditional Easter biscuits from Bristol.

Mr Earle, Teacher of History



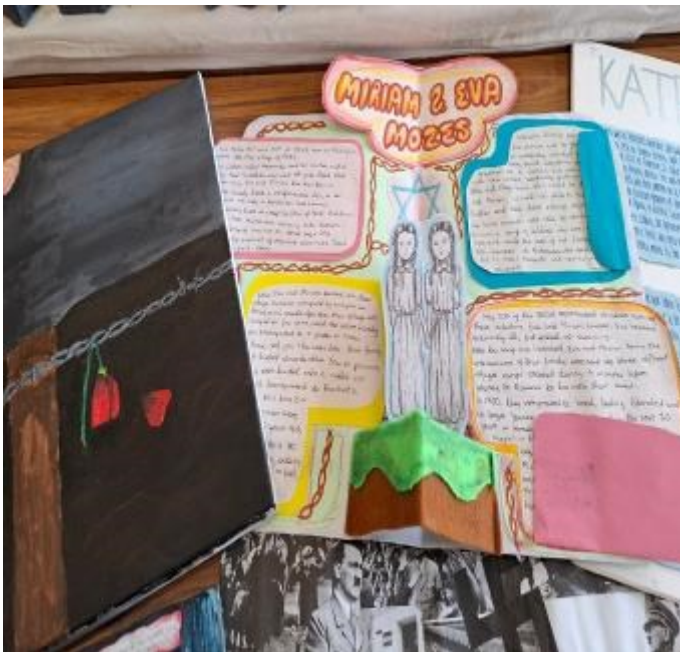


### History Continued

#### Holocaust Project

This term, Year 8 were asked to complete a Holocaust Memorial project. Their task was to research the story of a Holocaust victim and produce a memorial piece for them.

These outstanding examples were made by Carlotta 8B, Cecilia 8B, Isabel 8B, Stephanie and Bethany 8B and Nikki 8A.





### History Continued

#### Holocaust Project continued



Emily & Sophie (8U) with their pebbles pictured above



Below: Auschwitz and Holocaust dioramas by Lily and Sofia, 8U who are pictured at the top of the next page.





## History Continued

### Holocaust Project continued



India, Freya & Alanna who created a booklet



### Elizabethan Project

As part of their Tudor Experience Day in June, Year 7 were asked to make a 'gift fit for a Queen.' They were asked to research the kinds of gifts given to Elizabeth I during her Royal Progresses and make their own versions of them.

These pictured below were made by 7U including a leather bag made by Amala, a jewelled box made by Amelie, a portrait painted by Natasha, a fan made by Lilia, gloves by Molly, an archery target and bow made by Maddie and a range of gifts from Ysabella and Kasandra.





## History Continued

### Year 8 Trip to France & Belgium

On 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June, the History Department and 44 Year 8 students headed across the English Channel to France and Belgium. It was here that we spent the two days exploring the sites of WW1 battles and memorials to the fallen. Below are several summaries provided by our students on their experiences and what they have taken away from the visit.

“My name is Ria and I will be telling you about this experience that I will never forget. I enjoyed my time learning about the history of WW1 and the aftermath of the war. It was also a time where I connected with my friends, made conversation with new students and learned about the history of the war. I now have a deeper understanding of WW1, and how people should appreciate what others have done for them. Throughout the duration of trip, we visited memorials, trenches, museums, ceremonies and memorial parks. My favourite place was the ‘Memorial Museum Passchendaele.’ I got to see uniforms, bombs, shooting ranges, replicas of trenches and more. I enjoyed my time on the trip and if I could go back, I definitely would!”

Ria, 8C



“On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, Year 8 went on a history trip to France and Belgium. In History, we have been studying WW1 (1914-1918), so to learn more, we went to visit some memorials and museums. The

first site we visited was the Lijssenthoek CWGC Cemetery which sadly showed us visually how many people actually died in battle.

Next, we went to see the Bayernwald Trench system which taught us more about the development of trench warfare and the various problems with trench fighting. I really enjoyed walking around the trenches and seeing what it would’ve looked like. After that we went to see Langemark Cemetery. There I learned that most of the German soldiers were, like the British and French, just doing their duty and fighting for their country. When I was there, I found it rather eerie and had realised that I was stood in the same spot as Hitler- who had visited during WW2, during the German invasion of France

Going to see the Memorial Museum Passchendaele was very interesting because we got to see the uniform that the British wore and walk around a British bunker system. Later on in the day, we went to a chocolate shop in Ypres where we had the opportunity to buy authentic Belgian chocolate. After dinner, we went to the Menin Gate for the Last Post Ceremony, which takes place every evening at 8:00pm



The next day, we went to Newfoundland Memorial Park where we walked through a preserved trench system. My favourite part of the trip was when we went to see the Lochnagar Crater which was made from a large mine placed beneath the German front lines. It exploded sending debris over 4,000ft into the air, which is more than three times the height of the Empire State Building, and the explosion could be heard in London!

Overall, I think that the trip was a great experience and really helped us learn more about what happened in the First World War.

Lucy, 8T



## History Continued

### Year 8 Trip to France & Belgium Continued



“The Year 8 history trip was very emotional and exciting at the same time, as we visited such historically significant places. I've learnt new facts about the Battle of the Somme and Ypres, life in trenches, causes of WW1, equipment and weaponry of a soldier, memorials, and different stories of those who suffered through those difficult times. I've enjoyed experiencing everything throughout the trip and what it has taught me.”

Nicole, 8A

#### “ Day 1: Belgium

The history trip was very interesting and fun. On the first day, we had to wake up quite early, however I was very excited. We drove to Dover port and the boat ride was nice because there was good food and we had time to relax and walk around. When we arrived in France, we drove to our first stop which was Lijsenthoek Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) Cemetery where there were graves of allied soldiers who fought in WW1. Our guide (Gary) who showed us around France and Belgium was funny and he told us interesting stories about different soldiers in the cemeteries.

Our next stop was the Bayernwald trench system, which was built by the Germans and it showed the development of trench warfare. Our guide explained how the battles were fought and about the living conditions in the trenches.

We then arrived at the Langemarck German Cemetery which is one of the only German cemeteries in Belgium.

In the cemetery, there is a picture of Hitler visiting the site in WW2 and all the young soldiers saluting him.

Next, we explored the Memorial Museum Passchendaele 1917. This was exciting because we saw the weapons and could handle the equipment the men had to carry. My favourite part of the Museum was the British bunker system, as it was really funny going down the steps because they are very small and thin.

Before getting our dinner in Ypres, we went to a chocolate shop which was so much fun. Belgium chocolate is one of my favourites and it tasted delicious. While we walked to our restaurant, we looked around the town. Personally, I loved it because I enjoy exploring towns in other countries. The restaurant was called Yperly Restaurant in Saint-Jacobsstraat. We were given chicken and chips; it was delicious and everyone loved it.

After our dinner, we were lucky enough to go and see the Last Post ceremony. It is a memorial to the Missing on the Ypres Salient where the ceremony has been performed every day since 1928. It was heart-warming to see it and I will never forget it.

After a long day of travelling and looking around Belgium, we went to the Messines Peace Village and slept there for the night. We had separate rooms with two bunk beds and my room had two floors! Downstairs was the bathroom with a shower and comfortable chairs and the bunk beds were upstairs. It was a fun place and before bed, we were able to go outside where there was a little field and we had some freedom for a while.

#### Day 2: France

The next morning, we had breakfast and we were given a packed lunch as we would be travelling around. It was tasty and helped us throughout the day. We drove through France and firstly we went to the Sunken Lane. This was where the soldiers went 'over the top' in The Somme in 1916. Our guide showed us pictures of brave soldiers ready to go over and he explained to us that it was supposed to be a victory, however it failed and there was even a cameraman who recorded the battle to show families at home what it was like fighting in the war.

Later, the cameraman made a film about it in 1916 and the cinemas were busy everyday with people who wanted to see the reality of it all. Sadly, many men were killed by the German machine guns and there are many cemeteries around the area.

One of my favourite stops was Newfoundland Memorial Park which had a preserved trench system and we were able to walk across the battlefield. It was another very important place, and where many other soldiers fought. The attack was a devastating failure and sadly many were killed, missing or wounded. At the end of the



## History Continued

### Year 8 Trip to France & Belgium Continued

Battlefield, there is another cemetery and statues commemorating the Royal Newfoundland Regiment.

Our second to last stop was the Lochnagar Crater which is a very large crater 220ft down made by the use of mine warfare in the Great War by the British artillery. The Lochnagar mine was detonated underneath the German lines and eight successive waves of infantrymen of the 34th Division stood up from their trenches and set off to attack the German front line trenches. This was to be the bloodiest day in British military history. Around 20,000 died in the assault.

Our last visit was the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing. This is a huge memorial with over 72,000 names. While we were there, we looked at the names and prayed for everyone and their families. It was a lovely way to sum up our trip. We left a poppy wreath by the centre with many other wreaths. There was a shop near the entrance and some of us bought souvenirs. Two students, Macie and Nicoleta, described their experiences. Macie said, "I enjoyed walking round the museums and seeing what weapons looked like in real life, the bunkers, various styles of uniforms and getting an insight into what the soldiers' daily life was like." Nicoleta continued: "When I went on the trip, I had an amazing time. We went to a lot of different interesting museums which were very interactive. We got the opportunity to go into trenches and dugouts and see items used in WW1 such as letters, gear and weapons. We also got to see where soldiers fought in WW1. We stood where soldiers stood."

On Saturday evening, we came to the end of our trip. Luckily for us we were able to get an earlier ferry back home. The dinner on the ferry was very nice and the journey home was comfortable. I am very grateful that I was able to go to the Belgium and France trip. Thank you to all the teachers and our guide for making this trip unforgettable.

Abigail, 8A



## Politics

### BUCHS General Election 2024



BUCHS students were invited to take part in a mock election in July.

Our Politics Prefect, Niosi, produced an excellent guide to the political parties, their leaders, manifestos and local candidates. This was shared by form tutors and students were given a vote in the week leading up to the election.

The results were as follows -

|                   |           |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Labour            | 258 votes |
| Greens            | 86 votes  |
| Liberal Democrats | 64 votes  |
| Conservatives     | 62 votes  |
| Reform UK         | 48 votes  |
| English Democrats | 8 votes   |

So, BUCHS students would have elected the Labour candidate as MP for Brentwood and Ongar when the actual result saw the Conservative MP, Alex Burghart, re-elected in a seat that the Conservatives have held at every General Election since 1974.

However, BUCHS students were very much in line with recent studies of voting behaviour which suggests that younger voters are more likely to vote Labour and older voters more likely to vote Conservative!

Mr Earle, Politics Department





## Jack Petchey Award Winners 2023/24

Over the academic year, nine students and one member of the teaching staff have been nominated to receive Jack Petchey Awards in recognition of the unique contribution they have made to the school. On 18th June 2024, all recipients were invited to the Towngate Theatre, Basildon, to be presented with their Jack Petchey medallions by The Lord Mayor of Brentwood. School staff, family and friends of recipients were in attendance to cheer them on. We congratulate all the winners for the diverse ways in which they have enriched our school at a singular level over the past academic year.

### Right: Student Winners

Year 7: Penelope & Rosie  
Year 9: Frances & Janice  
Year 10: Lyla  
Year 12: Bianca, Mary and Nikita



The recipient of the staff Leader Award was Miss S Ball. Miss Sarah Ball has served Brentwood Ursuline as Head of PE and PE teacher for 27 years. In her time at the school, Sarah has led the PE Department in her distinctive inspirational and inclusive vision to multiple successes at local, county and national levels. Many students who have been taught by her have pursued a career path in independent sporting achievement and teaching. She has always been a dedicated professional, putting in thousands of hours of her time beyond the school day to helping students achieve both their academic and extra-curricular aspirations. Her attendance at after school fixtures as well as weekend competitions were undertaken due to her passion for sport and also for the rewards these events could offer young people. She has inspired countless pupils to 'win with grace,' 'be accepting in defeat' and to always act with high levels of sportsmanship. She is a true legend of PE teaching in Essex.



An outstanding vocal performance was given by one of our Year 10 students, Lina (pictured left,) who delivered a distinguished and memorable rendition of Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah.'

Thanks also to the Jack Petchey Foundation for all the support they offer students at BUCHS through their award programmes and to the School Council who thoughtfully consider all the nominations.

Mrs A Corless, Deputy Headteacher





## Sport

### BUCHS Girls Go to National Final

It has been a busy year and a jam-packed second half of the summer term with many sporting successes.



Intermediate Girls Athletics Team; Back Row: Miss Gianotti, Natalia, Ufuoma, Amara, Janice (co-capt), Joelle, Makarria, Divine, Temi, Mr Boshier. Front Row: Mary, Katie, Abigail, Jess, Aisling (co-capt), Grace, Lily. Not Pictured: Josephine.

In my last report, I mentioned that the Inter Girls Team (Years 9 & 10) had won their heat in the English Schools Athletics Association Track and Field Cup. They then went on to finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Regional A Final, qualifying for the National Final.

This was the 6<sup>th</sup> time the school had qualified for the National Final in that age group, but the first time since 2016. Having finished a rain-soaked school sports day on the Friday, the girls made their way north to Stoke-on-Trent ready to compete all day on Saturday.

Over 600 schools entered the competition and just thirteen made it to the National Final. The girls fought hard against tough weather conditions, competed well on the day and were a credit to the school in the way they conducted themselves. Once again, the team was led superbly by Aisling & Janice, despite the tough conditions there were three PBs on the track: Joelle (hurdles), Janice (200m) and Jess (1,500m) with Joelle and Ufuoma (100m) recording the fastest time in their events. Overall, we finished joint 7<sup>th</sup> with a school-best score of 458 points.

We are immensely proud of the girls that have worked so hard to reach the national final despite lacking the resources of some of the other competing schools. Their talent and dedication have been inspirational to the rest of the school. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to all the parents that brought the girls to Stoke and supported them on the day. Your help was very much appreciated.

The Junior Girls Team also competed in the track and field cup and reached the Regional B Final finishing 9<sup>th</sup> overall in the region and in the top 25 nationally. Led by Liya & Ella, there were lots of new PBs on the day; Shantay (200m), Chisom (300m & hammer), Osese (300m & high jump), Michelle (800m & long jump) and Ria (800m). Well done to all of these girls. Hopefully this success will lead to them taking the next step in 2025!



## Sport Continued

### BUCHS are District Champions!

After a very tight loss to Brentwood School last year, we were looking to bring the district title back to BUCHS! On a very sunny day at Melbourne Park, the girls worked hard and competed well to finish the day as District Champions! Years 7, 8 and 9 finished second in their individual year groups and the Year 10 team won, and so with that, we took the overall title.

As well as the team victory, Divine (Year 10) took the award for Outstanding Female Athlete with a silver in the 100m, followed by gold in both the hammer (with a new district record) and the 4x100m relay. Divine's achievement was extremely close to that of team mate Joelle who also finished with two golds (hurdles and relay) and a Silver (discus.) The girls took home 15 Golds, 13 Silvers & 14 Bronzes and broke 3 district records; Ufuoma (Yr 9 100m -12.3s), Divine (Yr 10 hammer – 31.26m) and Year 9 4x100m relay (Josephine, Abigail, Natalia & Ufuoma) timed at 51.2s.

#### Full District Results:

| School                              | Points | Place           |
|-------------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| <b>BUCHS</b>                        | 910    | 1 <sup>st</sup> |
| <b>St Martins School</b>            | 864    | 2 <sup>nd</sup> |
| <b>Brentwood School</b>             | 782    | 3 <sup>rd</sup> |
| <b>Shenfield School</b>             | 741    | 4 <sup>th</sup> |
| <b>Becket Keys C of E School</b>    | 513    | 5 <sup>th</sup> |
| <b>Anglo European School</b>        | 436    | 6 <sup>th</sup> |
| <b>Brentwood County High School</b> | 290    | 7 <sup>th</sup> |

#### Individual Results

|                    | YEAR 7                                                    | YEAR 8                                                | YEAR 9                                                    | YEAR 10                                                |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>100M</b>        | Carisse – 7 <sup>th</sup><br>Grace – 5 <sup>th</sup>      | Chisom – 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Chanae – 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Ufuoma – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Natalia – 3 <sup>rd</sup>     | Divine – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Mary – 3 <sup>rd</sup>     |
| <b>200M</b>        | Florence P - 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Georgia – 4 <sup>th</sup> | Shantay -7 <sup>th</sup><br>Aiseose – 8 <sup>th</sup> | Makarria – 5 <sup>th</sup>                                | Janice – 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Savannah – 4 <sup>th</sup> |
| <b>300M</b>        |                                                           | Osese – 2 <sup>nd</sup>                               | Abigail – 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                 | Alexa – 4 <sup>th</sup>                                |
| <b>800M</b>        | Florence W – 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Nhyira – 10 <sup>th</sup> | Michelle – 7 <sup>th</sup><br>Ria – 8 <sup>th</sup>   | Katie – 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Lydia – 9 <sup>th</sup>        | Aisling – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Inez – 5 <sup>th</sup>    |
| <b>1500M</b>       | Jayda – 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Ciara – 13 <sup>th</sup>       | Ella – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Poppy – 9 <sup>th</sup>     | Annabelle – 8 <sup>th</sup><br>Alessia – 11 <sup>th</sup> | Jess – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Phoebe – 4 <sup>th</sup>     |
| <b>HURDLES</b>     | Lena – 6 <sup>th</sup>                                    | Liya - 3 <sup>rd</sup>                                | Josephine – 1 <sup>st</sup>                               | Joelle – 1 <sup>st</sup>                               |
| <b>RELAY</b>       | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                                           | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                                       | 1 <sup>st</sup>                                           | 1 <sup>st</sup>                                        |
| <b>SHOT</b>        | Diamond – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Verity -10 <sup>th</sup>     | Isabel – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Chisom – 6 <sup>th</sup>  | Ufuoma – 5 <sup>th</sup><br>Joyce – 13 <sup>th</sup>      | Amara – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Alexa – 6 <sup>th</sup>     |
| <b>DISCUS</b>      | Carisse – 4 <sup>th</sup><br>Tsehai – 5 <sup>th</sup>     | Chy – 4 <sup>th</sup><br>Poppy – 8 <sup>th</sup>      | Keona – 4 <sup>th</sup><br>Phoebe – 5 <sup>th</sup>       | Joelle -2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Temi – 3 <sup>rd</sup>      |
| <b>JAVELIN</b>     | Charlotte – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Sophie – 7 <sup>th</sup>   | Nile – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Libby – 2 <sup>nd</sup>     | Abigail – 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Vanessa – 4 <sup>th</sup>    | Lily – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Aisling – 3 <sup>rd</sup>    |
| <b>HAMMER</b>      |                                                           | Cleo – 1 <sup>st</sup>                                | Makarria – 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                | Divine – 1 <sup>st</sup>                               |
| <b>LONG JUMP</b>   | Jayda – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Amelia – 5 <sup>th</sup>       | Kyra – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Michelle – 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | Josephine – 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Natalia – 7 <sup>th</sup>  | Jess – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Aurelia – 4 <sup>th</sup>    |
| <b>HIGH JUMP</b>   | Lena – 9 <sup>th</sup><br>Riley – 10 <sup>th</sup>        | Liya – 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Osese – 6 <sup>th</sup>     | Katie – 2 <sup>nd</sup><br>Cara – 9 <sup>th</sup>         | Mary – 3 <sup>rd</sup><br>Charlotte – 6 <sup>th</sup>  |
| <b>TRIPLE JUMP</b> |                                                           |                                                       |                                                           | Janice – 1 <sup>st</sup><br>Inez – 7 <sup>th</sup>     |



**Sport Continued**

**Representative Athletics**

22 Girls from BUCHS were selected to represent the school at the Essex Schools Athletics Championships. As Brentwood is such a competitive district, the girls have done really well just to be selected for this team, and competing in Essex, (one of the strongest counties in the country for schools' athletics) getting to the final and to medal level is a huge achievement. Below are the girls selected and the positions achieved.

**Minor Girls (Year 7)**

|           |            |                  |
|-----------|------------|------------------|
| 200m      | Florence P | 7 <sup>th</sup>  |
| 800m      | Florence W | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Javelin   | Charlotte  | 16 <sup>th</sup> |
| Shot      | Diamond    | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Long Jump | Jayda      | 4 <sup>th</sup>  |



**Junior Girls (Years 8 & 9)**

|           |           |                  |
|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| 100m      | Ufuoma    | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  |
| 300m      | Abigail   | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Hurdles   | Josephine | 2 <sup>nd</sup>  |
| High Jump | Liya      | 13 <sup>th</sup> |
|           | Katie     | 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| Long Jump | Michelle  | 12 <sup>th</sup> |
| Hammer    | Makarria  | 12 <sup>th</sup> |



**Inter Girls (Years 10 & 11)**

|             |          |                  |
|-------------|----------|------------------|
| 200m        | Mary     | Heats            |
| 300m        | Grace    | 8 <sup>th</sup>  |
| 3000m       | Mara     | 4 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Hurdles     | Joelle   | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  |
| Triple Jump | Janice   | 4 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Shot        | Shekinah | 3 <sup>rd</sup>  |
|             | Amara    | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Javelin     | Lily     | 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| Discus      | Temi     | 7 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Hammer      | Divine   | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |



Josephine (Year 9) and Sam (Year 12) were selected from the Essex Schools team to go to the National Championships. Sam finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the Senior Boys Long Jump and Josephine just missed out on a place in the hurdles final. However, she did bring home a bronze medal from the Junior Girls 4x100m Relay.

Well done to everyone who has represented the school and further afield this half term, the PE Department and I are very proud of your effort and achievements and I hope you are proud of yourselves.

Mr Boshier, Head of PE



### Spanish Cultural Projects: Years 7-9

During the final lessons of the Summer Term, our Year 7 to 9 students prepared and presented Spanish cultural projects in groups.

The students worked collaboratively to research their assigned topics within the Hispanic world, covering areas such as cuisine and gastronomy, famous landmarks and monuments, music and dance, sports, and cultural festivals and traditions. They also practiced their Spanish speaking and listening skills during their presentations.

The students did an excellent job preparing for this project, learning a great deal about the cultures of various Spanish-speaking countries, which enriched their learning experience.

A special thank you to Isabella (7C), Poppy (8A), Michelle (8U), Sofia (9A), Navya (9B), Andrea (9B) who brought Spanish food to school, allowing everyone to taste it.

Additionally, thank you to Brianna (9A) for preparing and making a video dancing to the rhythm of Shakira in Spanish. Thank you to Maya (8U) and Sofia (8U) for making a video cooking a Spanish tortilla. Lastly, thank you to Myrka (7A) for preparing a delicious pollo en adobo.

¡Bien hecho a todas! Well done to everyone!

Miss Rodríguez, Teacher of Spanish





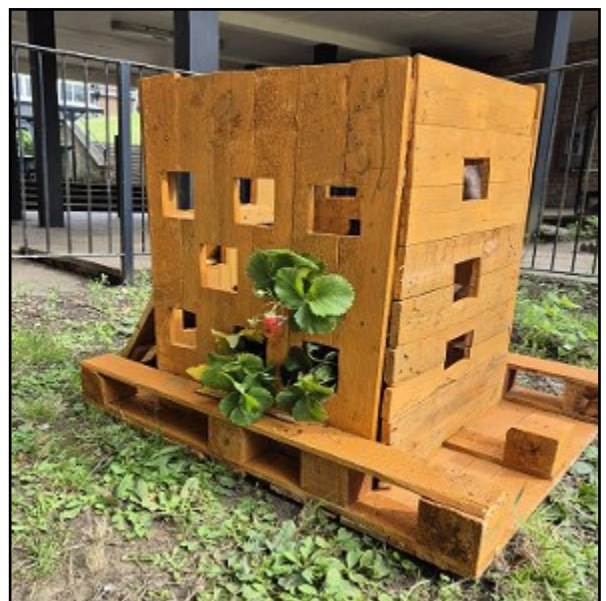
Spanish Cultural Projects: Years 7-9 Cont.

Key Stage 4 STEM Club



“Deciding to participate in STEM Club has enhanced my knowledge of architectural design and planning a great deal. Getting an opportunity to build our own strawberry planter has definitely improved my skills in mechanics eg sawing, drilling, putting in screws etc. For me, it was a very enjoyable experience and something to look forward to every Tuesday.”

Bernice, 9T





## STEM Technology Challenge

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> July, twelve students from Year 9 attended a STEM Technology Event at Havering College to learn more about potential careers in STEM and the role that developing technology can have in medicine, crime and scientific research. Students were able to work alongside medical students (to learn about some of the key areas of medicine,) experts in E-Fit technology and those working on automated robotic mechanisms. Throughout the day, students worked in teams, alongside other schools, to partake in 'real-life' scenarios to further their understanding of what the profession could be like. Each of the challenges were run as a mini-competition, with awards presented at the end of the day for those groups showing particular skills in: problem solving, team working, resilience and technology application.

### Medical Diagnostics

In this session, we looked at diagnosing two patients; one at a GP surgery and the other in hospital. We were given an insight into the processes doctors use to give a patient treatment; considering the patient history as well as taking tests and assessing the patient's GCS. We were able to try out/look at results from a range of tests; taking a patient's pulse and breathing rate, using x-rays and brain scans and using urine tests to check for abnormalities such as diabetes.



### E-Fit Technology

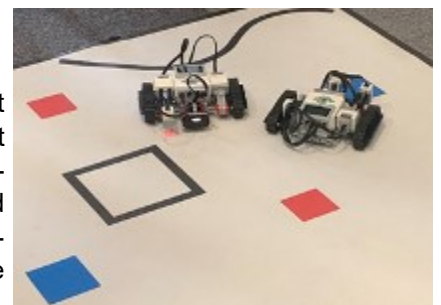


The second session was on E-Fit Technology. Having witnessed a simulated crime, each of our teams used the latest E-FIT 6 facial recognition software (as used by 95% of UK police forces) to create a computer image of the thieves. In our case, Mrs Read and Mr Huddleston! We weren't entirely successful in creating a real likeness of the thief but used this to consider the problems associated with memory and facial recognition, and, it has to be said that some of our eFits were not far off, with a few of our groups winning their sessions!

Even after spending a few minutes studying their faces (with our teachers having left the room,) it was trickier than we thought to remember precise hair colours, facial features and eye colour. We even gave Mrs Read glasses because she usually wears them, though not at that session! It gave us a real insight into the challenge of using E-Fit to identify a criminal when you might only see them for 10-15 seconds!

### Robotics

In our final task, each team was provided with a Lego Mindstorm EV3 robot which we could programme in order to navigate around a course. Each robot is equipped with ultrasonic and infrared sensors that enabled it to detect colour and object proximity in order to move and avoid obstacles. We managed to code our robots to stop at coloured markers and reverse, identify blue boxes and spin 90 degrees, as well as avoid crashes with other robots. We were also able to introduce sounds into the robot motion, with one group making their robot call out 'okey dokey' at each successful turn! We discussed the potential role of robotics like this in vehicles such as the moon rovers, where there is no driver on board and obstacles and unfamiliar terrain need to be navigated, as well as the technology for driverless cars and lane detection.





### STEM Technology Challenge Continued

The day finished with a Q&A session with medical students where our students could ask their own questions about what life as a medic is like, as well as prizes awarded by the Mayor of Havering for each of the winning groups.

Robotics Winners: Grace and Abigail

Medical Diagnostics Winners: Katie and Muna



Overall competition Winners: Zoey and Tana

These students also won the school a place at the National Finals which will take place next year at the University of Greenwich.



"I really enjoyed this STEM trip as it was an innovative and fun experience and helped us learn more about the different careers and future pathways in STEM-related courses. I especially enjoyed the robotics challenge, as the end result was quite fulfilling; watching our programme come to life with the robot's actions by coding to make different sounds and turns." Navya

While the main aim of the day was to allow students to gain an insight into whether a job linked to STEM subjects might be for them in the future, and gain a better understanding of STEM technologies, we had the added bonus this year of managing to secure a number of awards too! A fantastic end to the school year for the STEM students!

Mrs Read and Mr Huddleston, Science Department



## 2024 Physics Challenge Results

In May 2024, all Year 10 students had the opportunity to take part in the British Physics Olympiad: a national competition assessing each student's knowledge of GCSE Physics and the wider application of Physics in the real world.



### GOLD (top 16% nationally)

Gemma and Felicity

### SILVER (top 31% nationally)

|          |          |         |
|----------|----------|---------|
| Fadekemi | Violet   | Aisling |
| Kuukua   | Maxine   | Wonuola |
| Fia      | Tessa    | Alexa   |
| Huberta  | Aoife    | Beth    |
| Ariadne  | Florence | Lyla    |
| Aaliyah  | Maria    | Ruby    |
| Bianca   | Amy      | Edie    |

### BRONZE

|               |           |           |
|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Abbie         | Anais     | Sienna    |
| Tairat        | Lily      | Angelique |
| Mia           | Tenisha   | Seanna    |
| Francia       | Divine    | Maddie    |
| Mayriam       | Grace     | Ayanna    |
| timi          | Francesca | Eleanor   |
| Chioma        | Jessie    | Tilly     |
| Zerina        | Natalia   | Donatella |
| Oluwatamilore | Faith     | Clara     |
| Isla          | Hessa     | Megan     |



### 2024 Physics Challenge Results Continued

#### BRONZE

|           |              |              |
|-----------|--------------|--------------|
| Megan     | Sahara       | Megan        |
| Motunrayo | Alexia       | Phoebe       |
| Jasmine   | Freya        | Grace        |
| Amshica   | Tierna       | Isla         |
| Varshini  | lina         | Rozana       |
| Lilly-May | Isabella     | Mara         |
| Brianna   | Erin         | Twinkle      |
| Lily      | Violet       | Kissandra    |
| Polly     | Emelia       | Ruby         |
| Olivia    | Elleanor     | Ruth         |
| Eleanor   | Mary-Lourdes | Faye         |
| Amy       | Maggie       | Aliyah       |
| Olivia    | Charlotte    | Sophie       |
| Inez      | Chimuanya    | Chiamaka     |
| Isabella  | Victoia      | Iris         |
| Joelle    | Rita         | Aurelia      |
| Corinne   | Emma         | Lily         |
| Holly     | Felicia      | Mia          |
| Kayla     | Temilope     | Lola         |
| Favour    | Oluchi       | Charlotte    |
| Jessica   | Amara        | Charlotte    |
| Sophia    | Allegra      | Danya        |
| Ava       | Gabriella    | Heather      |
| Zoe       | Mary         | Keira-Marie  |
| Rebecca   | Angel        | Isabella     |
| Lavinia   | Michelle     | Grace        |
| Victoria  | Hannah       | Arabella-Blu |
| Janel     | Goodness     | Connie       |
| Yochebed  | Savannah     |              |

**All other participating students are awarded with a certificate of commendation.**

**A fantastic set of results, well done to all students for  
gaining national recognition!**

**BUCHS Physics Department**



## Blessed Sacrament Chapel

I wanted to share the result of the hard work that has been going on over the past few months in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

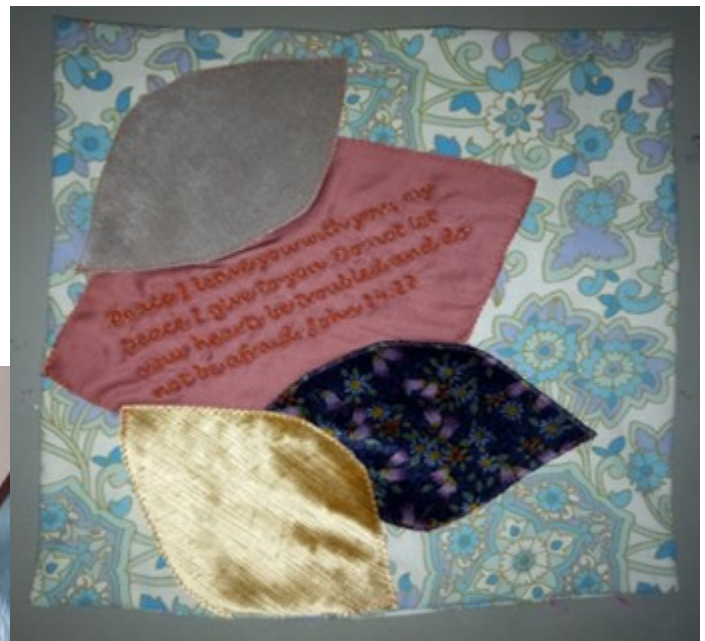
We now have an Ursuline tree in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Not only does this highlight our 'Ursuline identity,' but will also enhance future retreat programmes which link to our Ursuline virtues.

Thank you to Ms Strachan, Miss McGoldrick and Mr Smith for their work with this project, but in particular, congratulations and thanks to the following students:

Year 10 students who led on the painting of the tree -  
Lyla 10B  
Inez 10C  
Aoife 10C

Year 8 students who helped painting leaves -  
Katie 8U  
Viktoria 8U  
Sofia 8U

Mrs A Baird, Assistant Headteacher



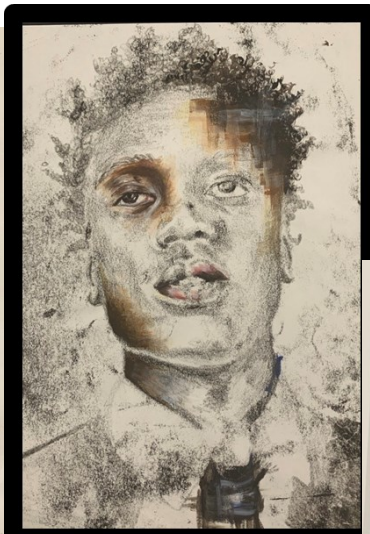
Right: The tree compliments the embroidered leaf cushions; another recent 'student-made' edition to the Chapel.



## Art

### Amazing Art from Year 12

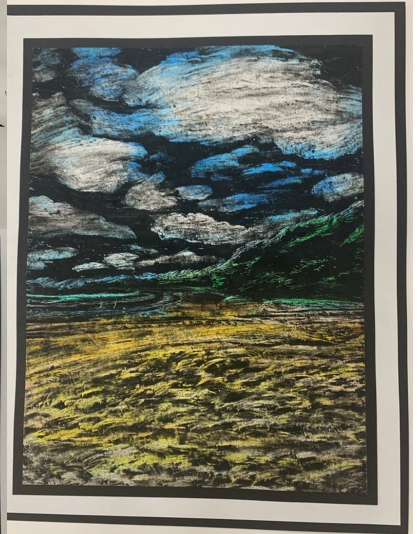
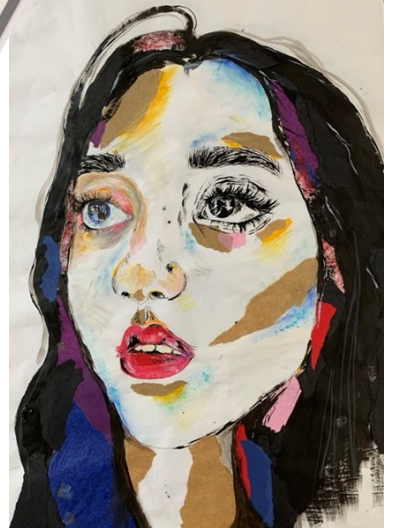
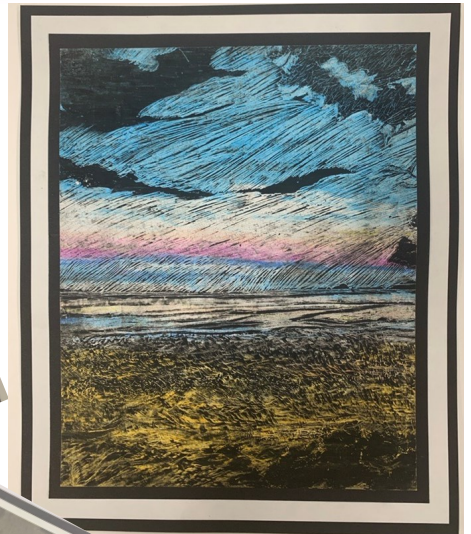
Our Year 12 Art students have enjoyed creating a body of work on their chosen Personal Investigation Unit themes, ranging from 'Portraits' to 'Insects,' 'Coastal Landscape' and 'Cityscapes.' They have been drawing and painting in a variety of 2D media, printmaking and using mixed media work. Students have worked on small and large scales. Particularly exciting are their large ink studies, where students used drawing implements as diverse as toothpicks, pieces of cardboard, sequin roll and bubble wrap, to feathers and twigs!



Well done Year 12! We look forward to seeing more exciting work!

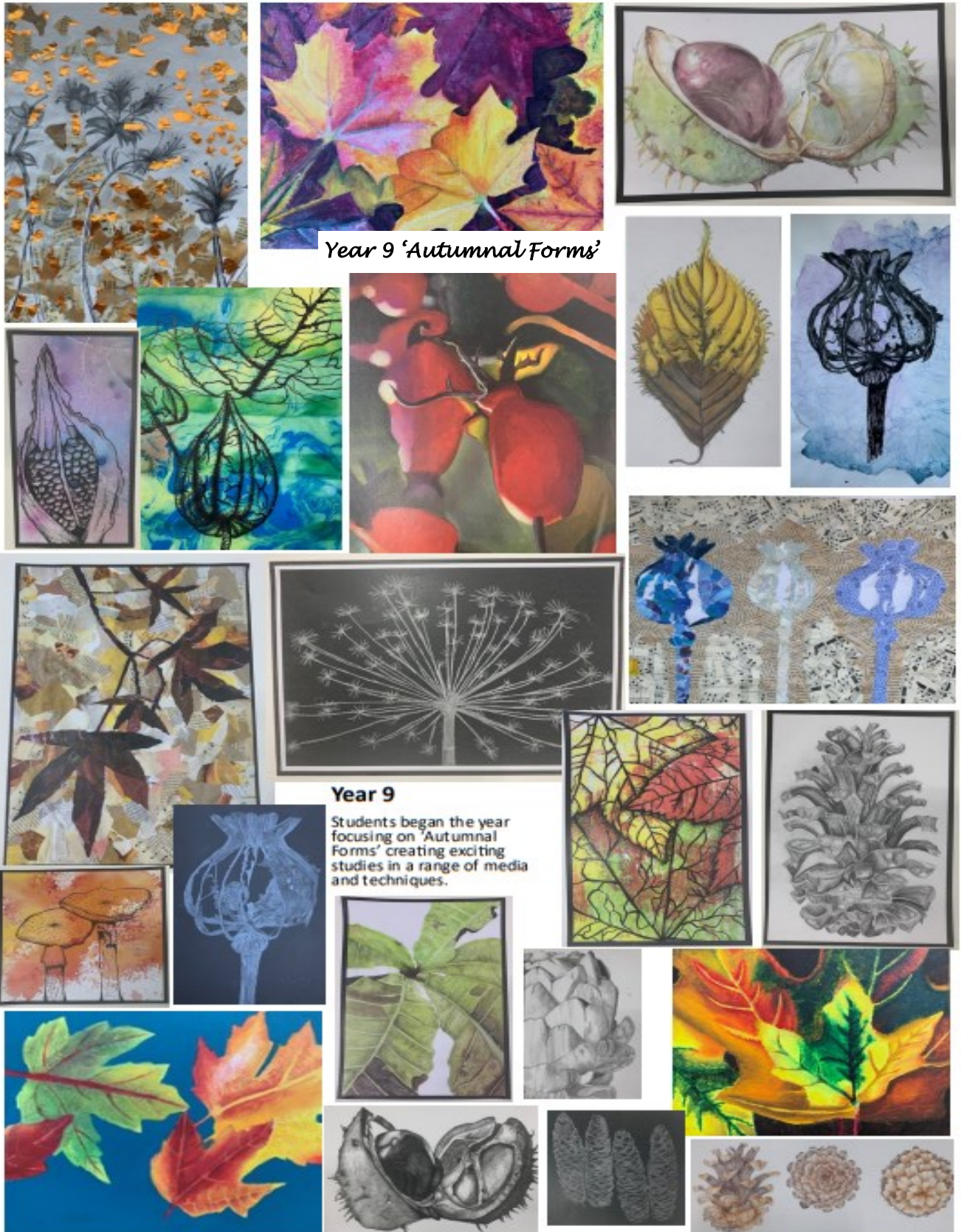


Art Continued



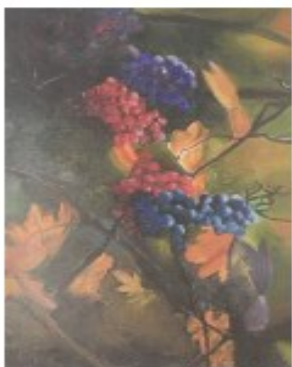


Art Continued





Art Continued

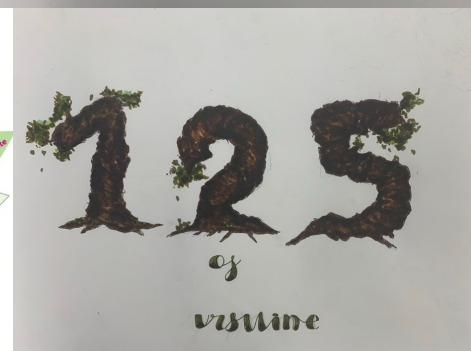
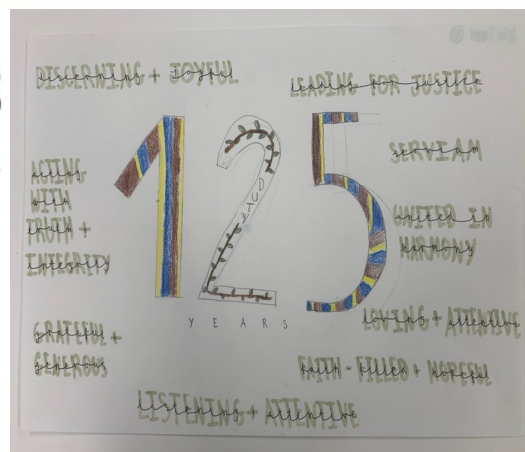




### Art Continued

#### Years 7 & 8 '125 Years'

Years 7 and 8 Art classes enjoyed beginning to produce designs in celebration of the school's 125 years. Students had creative and exciting ideas and we can't wait to see what students come up with in their special Art projects in celebration of this next year!



*"Act, move, believe, strive, hope, cry out to him with all your heart for without doubt you will see marvellous things."*  
*St Angela, Prelogue to the Councils, 16-18*



#### Year 10

Year 10 artists enjoyed creating the UEC tree for the Blessed Sacrament Chapel which was installed recently. Lyla, Aoife and Inez gave freely of their time at lunch and after-school, leading Year 8 students Katie, Viktoriia and Sofia, who also were amazing in their contribution to this special project.

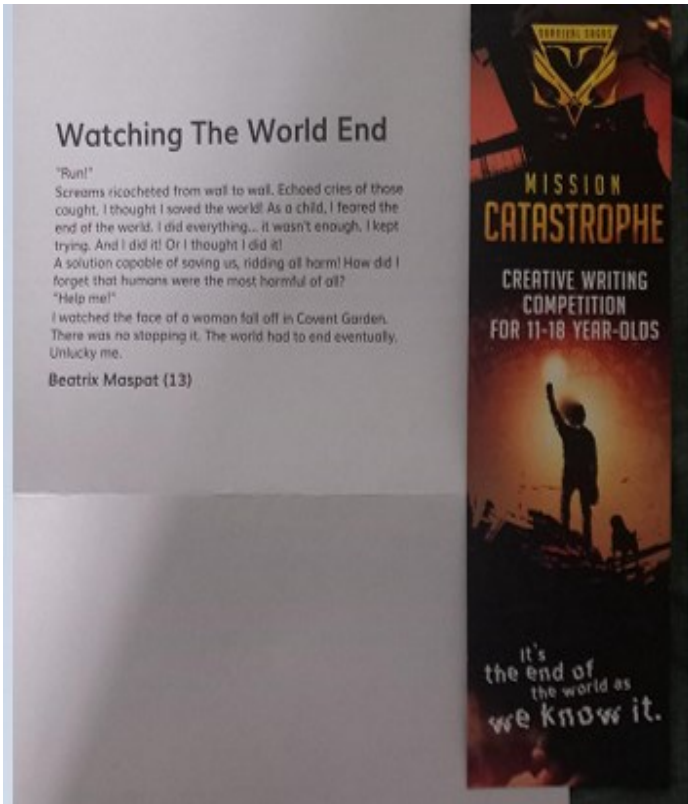
Aoife, Inez and Lyla can be seen (left) adding final touches to the tree. We look forward to completing the lettering of the virtues too.

Year 9 students are currently creating the second tree for Jones Square and are doing a fabulous job!

*insitme  
together*



### Creative Writing Success



Congratulations to Beatrix in 8J who entered a Young Writers competition for 11-18 year olds in the Spring term. The theme for this competition was 'Mission Catastrophe' and Beatrix responded with a piece entitled 'Watching the World end' which she tells us "surrounds the theme of a gruesome end to the world."



It will be published as part of an anthology.

You can find out more about the Young Writers competitions via this link:

<https://www.youngwriters.co.uk/>





## Library News

### The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge

Students are encouraged to take part in this year's Summer Reading Challenge via their local public library. The theme this year is 'Marvellous Makers.' See the link below for further information:

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/>



### Jack Petchey Success

Congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Nikita in 12.1 who was recently chosen to receive a Jack Petchey Award for her help in tutoring younger students with their Food Tech course.

Nikita chose to use her award money to purchase Economics books for the library and we are thrilled to say that we have been able to add a fantastic range of new titles to our Economics shelves. These books will provide support in wider reading for our Economics A Level students and Sixth Form students in general. Below are just some of the new titles available for loan.



### Years 11 and 13 to return their library books

Please can all Year 11 and 13 students ensure they return their library books as soon as possible or on results day.

Books can be handed to reception or directly to the library.

Lost or damaged books will need to be paid for.

**Many thanks**

### The Great BUCHS Book Swap

Our latest Book Swap event took place in the library on Wednesday 26th June. Students in Years 7 and 8 exchanged their own old books for 'new' ones during lunchtime. Not only do they enjoy taking home something different to read, but they feel that they are supporting the environment by reusing existing resources.

Some photos of the event are on the next page.

### Revision Guide Donations Wanted

If you have finished with a GCSE or A Level revision guide and it is in good condition, please consider donating it to the library to help others with their studies. Our Revision Guides section is very popular with our students.

Donations can be given to reception marked for Mrs Osborn's attention, or brought directly to the library.

Thank you.





**Library News Continued**



Madalina, 7A, swapping her own books for 'new' ones



Above: The library remembered the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings with a display of information and books about this significant time during the Second World War.

**Sparx Reader**

Well done to the following students who are the latest to have earned Gold Reader status in Sparx Reader by reading beyond the expected amount of homework on an ongoing basis.

|           |    |           |    |
|-----------|----|-----------|----|
| Tolu      | 7B | Joyshalom | 8C |
| Fleur     | 7B | Glory     | 8U |
| Charlotte | 7C | Bethany   | 8B |
| Natasha   | 7U | Isabella  | 8U |
| Michelle  | 7U | Ava-Maria | 8U |
| Bluebelle | 7C | Michelle  | 8A |
| Pippa     | 7U | Osose     | 8T |
| Sophia    | 7C | Bethany   | 8J |
| Sharon    | 7B | Elie      | 8A |
| Sophie    | 7B | Lauren    | 8A |
| Lilah     | 7C | Aseda     | 8T |
| Jayda     | 7A | Rinay     | 8T |
| Hope      | 7J |           |    |
| Sharon    | 7A |           |    |
| Taibah    | 7J |           |    |
| Tsehai    | 7A |           |    |
| Sophia    | 7A |           |    |
| Sophie    | 7A |           |    |
| Aimee     | 7T |           |    |
| Jilac     | 7A |           |    |
| Samuella  | 8C |           |    |
| Talia     | 8C |           |    |





### Year 13 Leavers Celebration

On Wednesday 12th June, BUCHS were delighted to hold a celebration event for our Year 13 Leavers in the Main Hall. With the help of Flo Events, the school were able to provide a beautiful backdrop on the main stage, a doughnut wall, so that all students could enjoy a sweet treat, and a 360° video spin camera, so that pupils could capture special moments with their friends.

The students also heard speeches from Mr Giles, Director of Sixth Form, Mia Andre, the outgoing Head Student; and were also greeted by Nicky and Elise from the group of former students. They presented Year 13s with a special pin badge to mark their time in the Sixth Form and encouraged them all to join the regular reunions of former students when they felt ready. Year 13 also put together a video slideshow of their time here and this was played, recalling many a happy memory of studying here at school.

This occasion was a great chance for the Sixth Form community to gather together and celebrate the end of the year, as well as wishing the students luck in their next endeavours. We remain extremely proud of the Year 13s and wish them every success in the summer and beyond.





### Year 13 Leavers Celebration Continued



### Year 13 Leavers: Ten Years Ago

Textiles teacher in 2014, Mrs Doll, gave each of her A Level students an Ursuline Bear (pictured below.) This one is the treasured possession of Bethany whose mother Kathryn Young shared the photo with Mrs Kemp-ton.



**Confirmation at St Mary, Mother of God Church, Hornchurch 2024/2025**

If your child is in Year 9 or above (from September), lives in our Parish and would like to make their Confirmation in 2025, please email the parish office to register your interest by Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024 at the latest. A preparatory meeting for parents and young people will take place on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall and the course will formally begin with a Welcome Session and Mass on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September. The maximum number of young people that we can have on the course is currently 50 and if applications exceed that number, we will prioritise those in Year 10 or above. When registering your interest, please include your child's full name, a contact number and a picture of their Baptism & First Holy Communion certificates. We will then be in contact with you directly once full programme details become available. The minimum expectations for the course are attendance at the Confirmation sessions and attendance at weekly Mass on Sunday or Saturday night. We are also happy to announce that the Bishop will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on this occasion.



**Brentwood Ursuline Alumnae Society**



**Reunion**

**Sunday 19th May 2024**



The Brentwood Ursuline Alumnae Society (BUAS) held its annual reunion on Sunday 19th May in the main school hall followed by afternoon tea in the dining room. Visiting past pupils were able to walk the corridors of their 'dear convent home' and shared some of their memories with our students assisting on the day. Grateful thanks to the staff and teachers who gave up their time to prepare and organise all of the refreshments.



The event opened with a meeting at 2pm where the guest speakers were Mrs S. Hedley-Barnes and her daughter C. Hedley-Barnes who performed a 'compare and contrast' session of the school past and present. The audience were left undecided whether the current students experienced less strictness with rules and regulations.

Mrs A Baird was on hand making video commentaries from many visitors on the day in preparation for a catalogue of memories in time for the school's 125th anniversary in 2025. Past pupils would be advised to visit the school website for special planned events taking place in the new academic year. For any past pupil interested in making contact directly with the BUAS, the email address can be found on the school website under the category 'Alumnae, Stay In Touch.'

[brentwoodursulinealumnae@gmail.com](mailto:brentwoodursulinealumnae@gmail.com)

Mrs A Corless, Deputy Headteacher





### Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award



Thirty nine intrepid Year 10 students set off on Saturday 22nd June for their assessed Bronze DofE expedition! The starting point was Danbury Outdoors Centre from which they had pre-planned a route around the local area with just a map and compass to guide them. That evening, they set up their tents and camping equipment, cooked a meal and settled in to rest before day two. The rules of the expedition stated that they had to be out walking for a minimum of six hours on both days and at points it was rather warm in the sunshine! Some teams encountered a variety of animal life on their treks including herds of sheep, geese, horses and donkeys!

"We both really enjoyed different aspects of the DofE experience. Our favourite part of each weekend was our time at camp, when we set up our tents, made dinner together, cooked s'mores, played games and spent time with everyone who participated. We feel that the expedition has encouraged new friendships and brought us together when supporting each other on the walks when emotions were low. We think that the experience has taught us many new skills and has shown us what we achieve by working as a team."

Phoebe and Clara, 10J



"A few weekends ago, we completed our Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award successfully, learning lots along the way. As a group, we worked really well together and thoroughly enjoyed this challenging experience."

The most challenging moment has to be the last few kms as we began to tire (having walked around 30km) but we tried to remain positive and enjoy our last moments so we could feel proud of completing our award- without getting lost at all!

One of the funniest moments was at dinner time when we joined with another group and relaxed; drinking hot chocolates, chatting and playing Uno! Another incredibly funny moment was when our group found a rope-swing in the middle of the forest!

Finally, on behalf of all girls participating in their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award, we would like to say a big thank you to all the staff involved- especially Mr Addicott who organised and helped! "

Aisling, 10U





**Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Continued**



I thoroughly enjoyed the overall experience that DofE brought; it was character building. I am very pleased and proud to have completed the award fully now. It involved learning a lot of new skills and tasks that pushed and challenged the group. With the help of our leaders, we were all able to take something away from the award as individuals.

I would recommend DofE to anyone wanting a challenge and something of interest to add to their CV. It is an experience to remember and to learn from. I made memories and spent time with friends and got to know new people.

Hannah, 10T

All students took part in a number of modules that count towards the overall Bronze Award: skill, physical, volunteering and the two overnight expeditions.

A huge thank you to the team at the Essex Youth Service who supported our students, and most of all to Mr Addicott who puts in so much time and effort both on the expedition weekends and also across the entire DofE programme.



**YOUTH  
WITHOUT  
LIMITS**



Brentwood Ursuline  
Convent High School *Founded 1900*

Newsletter  
Summer 2 2024



HM Government

[creativecove.org.uk](http://creativecove.org.uk)

CREATIVE



come and  
be part of  
BRENTWOOD'S  
creative  
future

Free creative and business workshops for 16-25s  
Access to creative equipment and workspace  
@ The Baytree Shopping Centre, Brentwood

29 June - 7 September

Launch party  
Saturday 6 July





## Music

### Exceptional Performances at Junior Prize Evening

Huge congratulations go to our Year 7,8 and 9 performers who supported the very successful Junior Prize-Giving evening in June. Anna-Maria, Eden, Sophia and Jess all contributed with high standards of performance. Their performances on this evening elevated the evening's celebrations and spoke deeply to their passion for music. Massive congratulations and thanks from myself and Mrs Corless for their support in the musical programme for that evening. Further, a massive thank you to Sam Barber who helped accompany our students. We look forward to further musical opportunities with Sam in the future.

### Chamber Concert in June

Congratulations also go to our musicians from Years 8 to 11 who performed beautifully in our most recent Chamber Concert in June: Jess, Joju, Gemma, Sofia, Mary, Lara Jane, Grace, Nile, Sophia and Florence. All the students were a huge credit to themselves and the school. A massive thank you also to Professor Morrison who accompanied the students on this occasion.



### Music Trips to Wigmore Hall

Most recently, students across Years 7 to 10 visited Wigmore Hall, London to listen to and experience professional performances by Camerata RCO on July 1<sup>st</sup> and The Elias String Quartet on July 8<sup>th</sup>. The students represented the school with pride and dignity on both occasions. Students experienced music from Strauss, Stravinsky and Schubert and responded extremely well by enquiring about their musical style in lessons and outside of lessons too. A massive thank you to Mrs. Wortley and Mr. Dempsey who supported the trip on these occasions. We look forward to bringing more musical experiences like this to all students.



### Thank you

A final word of appreciation from myself to say thank you for supporting the Music Department and the events that have taken place this year. I look forward to working with students again in the forthcoming academic year and to continue to push the exceptionally high musical standards of the school to further heights.

Mr Maynard, Director of Music



## Drama



# The Paper Birds

Year 9 and 10 Drama GCSE students along with our BTEC Performing Arts students took part in an exciting drama workshop led by Ciaran from acclaimed theatre company Paper Birds. Students explored the Verbatim Theatre style and worked enthusiastically to devise impactful performance pieces using movement and language based on the topic of Climate Change.

This will be a valuable experience as students create their own work in Component 1 of the GCSE and for numerous Units at BTEC. We continued our study of Paper Birds with a screening of their inspiring and thought-provoking work 'Mobile.' "Mobile explores our sense of home, belonging, aspiration, and the realities of social mobility. Powerful true stories and dreams for the future are revealed through video projection, recorded interviews, original music and interactions with a performer." A wonderfully unique and aspirational performance piece.

Mrs Gemma Wortley, Teacher in charge of Drama





*insieme  
together*

At BUCHS, we encourage our students to demonstrate ten Ursuline virtues. We have challenged our students to demonstrate all ten in one academic year, and provided many opportunities for them to do so.

We are proud to say that the following students have been awarded a certificate and 'Insieme' (together) badge in recognition of their Ursuline behaviour.

Myrka 7A

Ly-An Therese 9B

Bibire 9C

Cassy 9T

Navya 9T

Anjolaoluwa 9T

Makarria 9T

Eliana 9J

Frances 9A



*insieme  
together*



### RE In Film

Our 'RE in Film' Club launched this term, with Year 7s gathering over lunchtime to watch a film that showcases some of the themes we look at in RE. This term, we watched 'Zootropolis' and considered what we can learn from it about Catholic Social Teaching, particularly the importance of dignity and the Common Good.

In Years 7 or 8? Why not join us in the Autumn Term? Possible options include 'Coco', 'Soul' and 'The Lego Movie.'

Mr Walker, Head of RE



The worksheet Film Club members completed for Zootropolis

### UEC Conference at Ursuline Academy Ilford

On Tuesday 2nd July, some of our Year 10 Students were invited to the Year 10 Ursuline Conference at UAI. Along with meeting other Year 10 students from our Ursuline sister schools, they took part in a variety of workshops, reflected on the power of forgiveness, and sang with 'The Voice' winner, and former Ursuline Greenwich pupil, Adenike.

Ayanna said, "It was an incredible experience making friends with many girls from other schools. I gained the opportunity to receive advice from a person following a career I wish to pursue in the future, and had the opportunity to sing with Adenike. Overall, it was a lovely day. Thank you for the opportunity". Polly said that "although we may not go to the same school, we all came to our school to follow God's messages".





## Psychology

In the Psychology Department at BUCHS, we recognise the role of psychological knowledge for improving the lives of others and we encourage students to look for opportunities to share their knowledge too.

In July, six Year 12 students independently planned and delivered a lesson on the topic of obedience to a Year 10 PSHE class. Parallels were drawn between psychological findings into social forces and destructive obedience and what has been learnt this year in the Year 10 PSHE programme when exploring the topics of peer pressure, knife crime and radicalisation.

The Year 12 students demonstrated fantastic knowledge of obedience research, confident leadership of the class and the ability to engage with an audience. Well done to Adoley, Aliza, Nikita, Laura, Mary and Faith.



You can discover more about psychological research into obedience by researching the work of Stanley Milgram (1963), Bibb Latane (1981) and Jerry Burger (2009.)

## Interhouse Competition

In a display of academic ability and team spirit, psychology students from Year 12 recently participated in a highly anticipated interhouse competition! The event featured a series of intellectually stimulating activities designed to test students' knowledge.

The competition saw all six houses battling it out in a friendly yet fierce contest. Each house was represented by a team of enthusiastic psychology students who brought their 'A-game' to the table.

The competition kicked off with a tricky missing vowel round that tested students' familiarity with Year 12 theories. Only consonants were available to guide them, adding an extra layer of challenge to the already complex concepts. This was followed by a challenging conundrum round where concepts from the social and cognitive approach had got well and truly muddled up! Next, the multiple choice round allowed students to pick up some valuable points for their houses.

The 'odd one out' round challenged students to identify which studies or researchers did not belong in a given set.



## Psychology Continued

This round was not only about recognising the odd one out but also about explaining the reasoning behind their choices, offering a bonus point for a well-articulated justification. This tested the students' deeper understanding of the connections and distinctions between various psychological studies and researchers. The "What am I?" round put students' methods knowledge to the test, providing a series of clues that led them to identify key research concepts. This round required a combination of critical thinking and extensive knowledge of research methods. Finally, the competition concluded with an exciting visual round where students were presented with pictures of famous individuals in psychology.

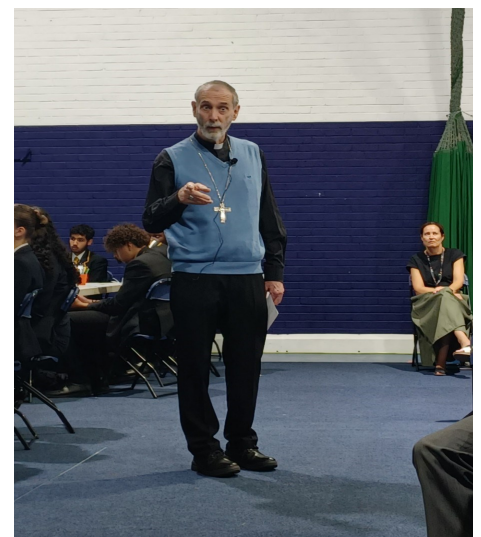
As the final scores were tallied, it was clear that the competition had been a great success, showcasing the intellect and enthusiasm of the students. Congratulations to all the students who participated and to Brescia for securing the maximum 60 points for their house. The full results were as follows:

|          |           |
|----------|-----------|
| Brescia  | 60 points |
| Trinity  | 50 points |
| Ursula's | 40 points |
| Clare's  | 30 points |
| John's   | 20 points |
| Angela's | 20 points |

## Year 12 Leadership Conference - "Being the Change"

Students from our BUCHS Year 12 Student Leadership Team attended the "Being the Change" conference on Monday 15th July, which gathered young leaders from various Catholic schools across our diocese at De La Salle Secondary School in Basildon. We were spoken to by Catholic Charities BCYS and Caritas as well as Bishop Alan Williams on the topic of leadership and navigating our roles in school. A central theme of the conference was how we could implement the principles of Pope Francis' 'Laudato Si' into projects aimed at helping the poor and protecting our planet - in response for his call to help the needs of the Earth and the needs of the poor. This was focused around principles of Catholic Social Teaching, and gave us an opportunity to reflect on and highlight our commitment to social justice and environmental stewardship within our school community.

Charlotte, Head Student





## The Listening Space

### Express Yourself Event

Students from our inclusive lunch time club 'Listening Space' organised a wonderful event in the main hall as part of Diversity Week. The 'Express Yourself' event has become a popular annual opportunity for all students to come together and simply celebrate our individuality through song, dance and poetry readings. This year, we read a number of poems titled 'Discovery' written by students from Years 7 and 8, watched our very own Junior Dance company entertain us with a routine to 'You can't stop the beat' from Hairspray the musical, whilst special guest Mr Huddleston performed 'I'm just Ken' from the Barbie movie.

The Listening Space is a calm, welcoming and friendly club that meets on a Tuesday lunch time in the Chapel. It's a place where students can develop their confidence and courage, as they navigate their own journey of discovery during these school years. We talk through matters concerning them and help to develop their social skills while supporting and helping them to feel seen and heard.



Left: Our very own Mr Huddleston sharing his vocal talents with the audience!

**TUESDAY 25TH JUNE 2024**  
**MAIN HALL**  
**LUNCH TIME**

**RAINBOW FLAGS AT THE READY!**

**THE LISTENING SPACE**  
**INVITES YOU TO THE**

**'EXPRESS YOURSELF'**  
**EVENT**  
**2024**

**PURCHASE A £1.00**  
**RAINBOW RIBBON TO ENTER**  
**OR**  
**BRING A SHARING DISH FOR**  
**FREE ENTRY**

**POETRY READING**  
**SURPRISE TEACHER PERFORMANCE**  
**DANCE PERFORMANCE**  
**'JUST DANCE'**  
**LGBTQ+ SUPPORT AND INFORMATION**

**ON SALE IN JONES SQUARE AT BREAK 24.06.24**

**LGBTQ + PRIDE MONTH**



### BUCHS Bees

This half term, we have been enjoying the opportunity to get outside in the warmer, (mostly!) drier weather and monitor the hives and their activity. We've been making the most of the new suits we were able to purchase earlier in the year to go outside in larger groups to trim areas of the apiary around the hives and monitor the activity of our colonies; looking for the queen, brood, honey stores and egg laying. We believe that one of our colonies is now unfortunately 'queenless' so are hatching plans to combine our bees with a swarm Mr Foster has collected in Chelmsford to try to get them up and running again.



### The Wandering Women of Warley

Exciting news however; while we were out trimming the apiary and considering our next move with our queenless colony... all of a sudden, the apiary was a hive of activity. Having spotted a few bees lurking around our empty hive earlier in the session, the masses arrived! It turns out that the few bees spotted by Mrs Read when we walked into the apiary were 'scout bees' on the hunt for the location of a new hive for their swarming colony. We were so fortunate to be out there at the time. The rest of the colony then arrived and so we stood in the middle of it and watched the thousands of bees arrive and set up their new home in one of our hives! We've been keeping an eye on them since and the 'Wandering Women of Warley' seem to be settling in well and beginning to store pollen and honey. We're leaving their honey stores well alone so that they have plenty of supplies to continue to thrive over the summer.



### Honey extraction

Our other colony is doing really well and so we have been able to take 12 frames of honey from their Supers ready to bottle before the summer break. Over the past few weeks, we have been busy cleaning the extraction equipment, taking frames of honey, de-capping and centrifuging them to remove the honey, and then filtering it.



We hope to have the honey bottled in time for the last day of term for sale to staff and members of BUCHS Bees initially. Hopefully, there'll be more to come on our return in September that we can then share with you all! What will it taste like this year? Have the bees foraged the same flowers to give us that floral taste? Or will we have some new tones on the taste buds this year?

Mrs Read & Mr Foster, BUCHS Bees



**GET IN!**  
Holiday Courses  
+ City Camps

24 July - 30 August

**SUMMER FUN  
FOR EVERYONE**

With our holiday camps and courses for kids, family swim and ice skating.

Chelmsford City Sports

Click on the link below for more information:

[https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/who/kids-activities/holiday-activities/kids-holiday-courses/?utm\\_source=GovDelivery&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=GetInSummer2024&utm\\_content=image\\_and\\_text](https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/who/kids-activities/holiday-activities/kids-holiday-courses/?utm_source=GovDelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=GetInSummer2024&utm_content=image_and_text)

**kooth**

Supporting the mental health of children and young people in your school community

Kooth is available for students all through the summer - our professional mental health practitioners support young people with whatever's on their mind; from loneliness, family or friendship issues, to body image, self harm or suicidal thoughts.

**This summer we're also running a campaign called Go Somewhere Good! Please let your students know!**

We're sharing inspiring ideas of good places and things to do over the holiday. Everyone who votes for their favourite idea has the chance to win a prize that might give your students an alternative to spending too much time on their phone - prizes include skateboards, frisbees and £50 book vouchers.

You could spark debate using our [discussion guide](#) with ideas to boost mental wellbeing and online safety. For families, we have some resources for you to share:

Free KoothTalks webinars "*Parenting pressures during the summer holiday and how we can help*" - here's the [booking form](#) for parents/carers.

[Activity sheets](#) to supplement all the good ideas of things to do that are available on Kooth.



## Summer Holiday Bikeability Courses

Summer holidays are fast-approaching. Are you looking for something for your child to do over the holidays? Why not sign them up to one of our Bikeability Courses.

Different levels are available as well as our beginner course called 'Learn to Ride.'

The courses are being held in the following locations and more may be added:

- **Chelmsford**
- **Colchester**
- **Harlow**

Please see below the link for parents/guardians to book summer holiday courses.

<https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking>

## HOLIDAY COURSES

### **Bikeability Level 1, Level 1 & 2 and 3 and Learn to ride courses**

**To book, please visit link**  
[essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking](https://essex.cycleready.co.uk/publicbooking)

There is a £15 non-refundable booking fee



**The Cycle Sustainability Team**

