

MESSAGE FROM MR MOHAMMED, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

This spring newsletter highlights the numerous events and activities that the students have engaged in. It is a recognition of their determination to be the best they can be, ably supported by the members of staff that give of their time generously.

By the time this newsletter goes to print, we will have raised hundreds of pounds for Red Nose day on Friday 24 March, which again is a credit to the whole community willing to support such good causes. This year the theme is 'Make every laugh matter' so get ready to giggle!!

As the development of the school continues, I am pleased to announce that The Billericay School has been successful in becoming a Fujitsu Ambassador School. This will mean that we will have circa £30,000 of investment made into our provision, a mixture of resources and services. We will also have access to key personnel from Fujitsu and their partners Intel, Brocade and Kyocera.

Benefits from this programme have already started as two of their cyber security personnel have been involved in our STEM masterclasses that run on Saturday mornings, these are attended by our students along with able students from nearby schools.

The formation of the Multi Academy Trust with The Bromfords School is gaining momentum as our governors voted unanimously to go onto the next stage at their last meeting.

My 'Thanks' to the many parents that took time to write to the school expressing their thanks for the work of the school in showing them how to support their children to prepare for their examinations.

We have also been successful in achieving the 'Healthy Schools Award' and 'Outstanding Contribution for emotional health and well-being'. Both aspects have received much media coverage and raise concerns about modern society. These awards have recognised the work of the school in addressing such important aspects and the development of youngsters. My Thanks to all of the staff that enabled the school's work to be recognised in this way.

I hope that as the weather turns for the better you are able to enjoy some time with family and friends.

Ahson Mohammed



GOODBYE MR MACBETH



Mr Macbeth has decided he will be retiring at the end of this academic year. A huge thank you to him for all his good work at The Billericay School over 38 years during which he has taught 1000s of children, some of whom are now grand-parents to our current students!

Most of you will have met Mr Macbeth either during the transition stage between primary and secondary education or since where he has worked tirelessly to make all of our students and their parents welcome and feel part of our school.

He joined The Billericay School in September 1979 as a PE teacher and also taught English. In his time here he has led the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme, been Head of PE, Head of Lower School, Assistant Head and latterly Deputy Headteacher.

Mr Macbeth said it had not been an easy decision to retire, as he still gets enormous pleasure and satisfaction from this work. However, after a fantastic and varied tenure at 'Billericay' he feels it is time for others to continue his work. He will now have time to further pursue his interest in running and to play golf in his native North-East. He will also be able to tick off the adventures on his bucket list and this will include being a season ticket holder at the Stadium of Light!

Good luck, Sir.

HEALTHY SCHOOLS AWARD

On 10 March, at an awards ceremony at Chelmsford Racecourse, we were thrilled to be reaccruited with Healthy Schools Status. This was in recognition of our commitment to all aspects of Physical, Mental and Emotional Health and Wellbeing. In order to achieve the award the school had to meet category benchmarks in a variety of areas from policy development and implementation, to the curriculum and pastoral care. We were judged to have met excellent standards in PSHE, Emotional Health and Wellbeing, Physical Activity, Food and Nutrition, Student Voice and our work with Partners and Support Services.

In addition, we won the overall award for Outstanding Commitment to Emotional Health and Wellbeing in recognition for our work in this area. We were praised for how we try to reduce stigma around mental health by ensuring it is talked about and that it has the same importance ascribed to it as physical wellbeing. We believe our students will thrive as happy, healthy individuals and achieve great results if they also learn how to be resilient and proactive about their own wellbeing. We try hard to support them to do this. Our student surveys confirm that they are getting better at managing stress and anxiety and are more knowledgeable about mental health generally. Students say that this is a happy school.

The two awards are the result of the hard work and commitment of all in the school – an excellent team effort.



Ms Pidgen, Mrs Berry and
Mrs Griffiths with the awards



SOUTHEND ADVENTURE ISLAND WRISTBANDS

FOBS are once again offering you the opportunity to purchase Southend Adventure Island wristbands at greatly discounted prices with substantial reductions compared to the in-park price you would pay. FOBS are able to generate a small profit for every band sold, raising important funds for projects to benefit the students within school. We value your support in this simple yet effective fundraising initiative!

Prices are:

Big Adventure wristbands £16.00
(normal peak time in park price £29)

Junior/Mini wristbands £12.00
(normal peak time in park price £24/£19)

Terms and conditions apply – see school website for full details

CERY'S TAYLOR-ROBINS – YEAR 9

Congratulations to Cerys Taylor-Robins who recently attended an award ceremony where she was presented with a Jack Petchey award through her guiding service.

Well done, Cerys!

Kingswood Activities Centre, Overstrand, Norfolk



Between the 7-10 March, 50 of our Most and More Able Year 7 students attended the Kingswood Residential Centre in Overstrand, Norfolk. They were involved in a range of educational and life skills activities to foster their communication, teamwork and leadership. The activities included "High Equilibrium" where students had to work together to balance on a beam at considerable height, "Nightline" where the blind-folded students had to learn to communicate effectively to pass through an obstacle course, and an evaluation of the coastal defences on Overstrand Beach. The students were accompanied on this trip, by Mrs Clare, Mrs Taylor, Mr Payne and Mr Murnane.

BBC

SCHOOL REPORT

NEWS SCHOOL REPORT



Thirty of our Year 7 students, led by Mr Pursell, took part in BBC School Report on 16 March. They researched, wrote and broadcast their news reports making sure that they met strict BBC deadlines. You can see their final reports and news broadcasts at: www.billericayschool.net/speakup



CANCER RESEARCH UK

On Saturday 26 November, The Billericay School hosted a craft sale in support of Cancer Research UK. The sale raised £1230.40 and a huge thank you goes to Kathleen and Margaret Parsons, from our Facilities team, whose hard work and enthusiasm made the event possible.



SIR NICOLAS WINTON FOUNDATION

In our Summer 2016 newsletter we reported that our students had raised money for the Syrian Refugee Crisis which was endorsed by the Sir Nicholas Winton Foundation. We are pleased to share the response we received from Sir Nicholas Winton's son:

On behalf of me and my sister Barbara may I thank you and your colleagues at The Billericay School for your donation to our father's Foundation.

As you know my father, Sir Nicholas Winton, was a great campaigner for making a difference in the world, both in his Kindertransport project in 1939 and also in his later life. He is a lesson to us all about how much difference each one of us can make to our own community.

For example, here in Maidenhead he created a support organisation for parents who had children with Down's syndrome by establishing a local MenCap; and also for elderly people by setting up two care homes for Abbeyfield. He was also an active member of his local Rotary Club whose motto is "Service above Self".

My sister and I will combine your donation with others and will divide it into two parts:

Half will be directed to the Refugee Council with particular focus on their work in helping unaccompanied refugee children here.

The other half will go to Theirworld who run programmes for displaced Syrian children in Lebanon and Jordan so that they have an education while they are refugees from the fighting in their home country.

Both these donations help those in the most difficult of circumstances through no fault of their own.

Please thank all those who contributed to these valuable projects.

With thanks Nick Winton

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARDS



A big 'congratulations' to the following students who have successfully completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award since the last newsletter.

Rory Quinn
Mia Breading
Josh Breading
Jack Warr
Maria Leech

Eleanor Newsum
Amber Osborne
Louis Everard
Lucie Smith

This involved completing a period of volunteering, physical and skill sections along with a two day one night expedition. Well done!

Lucy Dekker has also completed her Silver Award, which involved longer periods of volunteering, physical and skill sections and a three day, two night expedition. An excellent achievement, well done!

Year 10 students have now signed up for their Bronze award and a number of Year 11 and 12 students have enrolled to complete their Silver award. Students need to ensure their programme planner is submitted for each section for approval before they start that section. Bronze participants should be attending their weekly training sessions for the expedition section. The practice and qualifying expeditions take place between May and July. All participants should have their walking boots by now and be walking them in.

Silver participants are undertaking their practice expedition in Ashdown Forest at the start of the Easter holidays and their qualifying expedition is in The New Forest during July.

EXAM DATES FOR SUMMER 2017

15 May – 29 June	GCSE and GCE external exams	Years 10 – 13
19 May	Year 10 PPE Statistics exam	
22 June	Year 10 Statistics exam	
26 June – 5 July	Year 10 PPE exams	
17 August	GCE results day	Years 12 and 13
24 August	GCSE results day	Year 11 *
* other years receive their results in school in September		

The above exam dates are on the school website and in the students' "Exams Handbooks". It is vital that your child has their own copy of this handbook before they take their first external exam this academic year. It contains important and useful exams information, together with regulations, which students have to abide by during GCSE and GCE examinations. If your child is in Year 10 - 13 and they have not yet received a copy, please ask them to come to the Exams Office to request one. You can also find a copy on the "Exams" section of the school website.

If your child is taking GCSE exams in the summer, please ensure that you and your child are aware of the dates of each exam and when they are scheduled (your child should have received their personalised exam timetable by now; if they have not, they should go to the Exams Office to request another copy). A copy has been sent via InTouch. If your child misses their exam, we are unable to re-schedule it as dates are set by the examining boards and unless there is a good reason (e.g. medical) for their absence, you will be expected to pay for this exam as per the letter sent out recently by Mr. Mohammed regarding "Public Examination Fees". Students have also received important information regarding attendance at examinations and advice if they are late arriving to an exam; this information sheet is on the school website.

Please ensure that your child is properly equipped for each exam, especially Maths exams when calculators are required and are only replaced if found to be faulty; a calculator will not be given to a student who forgets to bring their own (please see pages 12 and 13 of "Exams Handbook" for further information).

We remind you that we do not authorise holiday absence other than in exceptional circumstances at any time of year. It is also vital that students in Years 10-13 are not absent during exam periods, which now stretch across much of the year. If you have any concerns, please contact the Exams Office in the first instance.

School Ski Trip – Bormio Italy

Ciao! The annual February half term school trip for Year 9 and Year 12 students of the Gruppo scuola di Ski Billericay went to the resort of Bormio in the Italian Dolomites this year. After a smooth 24 hour journey by coach to the resort, the group of 45 students and 7 staff arrived on the Saturday morning to a week of fresh snow and blue skies. The two beginners groups made excellent progress throughout the week, progressing on to red intermediate pistes, while the intermediate and advanced groups skied big mileage around the whole resort and all groups competed in the slalom race at the end of the week. Away from the slopes, the group went swimming in the warm outdoor thermal pool, ice skating, and sang karaoke. An excellent week was had by all. Next year's trip will be to Serfaus in Southern Austria.



UPDATE FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

In January, twenty-nine Year 8 students and eight Year 9 students took part in a fantastic song-writing workshop provided by IEM (Industry Education in Music) and worked with some amazing musicians from BIMM (British Institute of Modern Music). Within the space of three hours, each group composed and performed their own pop song. During lesson 5 the whole of Year 8 was invited to a talk on the music industry and treated to a performance by Myles Goodman and his band (musician from BIMM). Comments from the Year 8 students after the concert were very positive; some said they would try to write and record some songs themselves. Overall, it was a highly enjoyable experience for all students and teachers who took part. We thank IEM for coming and making it an enjoyable day, opportunity and experience.

Our music leaders have also been organising and running some fantastic Open Mic sessions at lunchtimes. Everyone has been invited to participate, both students and staff.

Our Spring Music Recital took place on Tuesday 28 March. This featured a number of GCSE and A level performances and additional acts from our KS3 students.

Some of our students from Years 8 and 10 have created and entered compositions in the Royal Opera House Fanfare competition; we would like to wish them all luck.

A date for your diary: Our Expressive Arts Summer Concert will be held on Tuesday 18 July.



Safeguarding and Wellbeing

Supporting parents to understand the risks of the internet

Vodafone have been particularly supportive of parents with the 'Digital Parenting' magazine they have produced for five years now. We sent home hard copies last year but the magazine is now available as a downloadable pdf:
[Digital Parenting Magazine \(pdf\)](#)

As well as lots of information on our website, there are also links to resources. ThinkUKnow and the NSPCC produce particularly helpful guides.
How to...guides (Think U Know)
Your guide to the social networks your kids use (NSPCC)

Books on various aspects of wellbeing

We all love a good story. Stories can make us laugh, cry, and think. They can help us both learn and think about the lives of others. Children often find it extremely helpful to read about health and wellbeing issues that they may be experiencing themselves. There are a few suggestions here:

Books Focusing on Identity, Belonging, Conflict, Migrant and Refugee Experiences
Books about Kindness, compassion and empathy
Books about bullying for 8-12s
Books about depression
Books about grief and loss
Eating Disorders Awareness Booklist

More and more children are now living in families where an older relative has dementia. These books might help:
Children's books on dementia

Supporting your child through exams

We try and offer students a lot of advice about their upcoming exams both in terms of revision and exam strategies, and also in keeping healthy and managing any stress. The YoungMinds parents' helpline sees a big spike in calls about young people being stressed and anxious around the time of mock exams, GCSEs and results days. Emma Saddleton, the YoungMinds Parents Helpline Manager, says there is a lot parents can do:

- Try to help your child to plan how they're going to get through it.
- Help them to eat well, to sleep well, and to exercise.
- Don't expect them to work for seven or eight hours a day, and make sure they're getting regular breaks.
- Listen to them and take their concerns seriously.
- Remember that young people have different learning styles, and they need to revise using the active strategies they've been shown.
- Take advice from teachers.
- Above all, tell them you'll be proud of them.

Your child can also take a look at The Mind Set, developed in partnership with BBC Learning, Childline and the National Citizen Service. It provides information, support and advice at exam time, preparing to take exams and dealing with exam pressure.

Visit the Mind Set at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3hpgdm>

SCHOOLS BIKEABILITY TRAINING

The Billericay School, in association with Essex County Council Schools Bikeability Training Scheme, offers free training with qualified instructors.

Applications have closed for the next training session which will be on Friday 31 March by which time a total of 44 children will have undergone training during this academic year. Three hours training is provided at Level 3 on local roads around the school, and 4 hours training is provided in the event Level 2 has not been completed.

Students will not be allowed on the school site with their bikes unless they have completed Level 3 Bikeability training.

It is planned that future training will be provided during the Autumn term; further details will be available in the Summer Newsletter.

To undergo training your child must have their bike, ensure it is mechanically sound, wear a helmet and suitable clothing (including wet gear if needed).

More information is available from:
<https://bikeability.org.uk/>
or www.essexhighways.org > Transport and Roads > Getting Around > Cycling



SIXTH FORM NEWS

Sixth formers have been busy over the past term, preparing for public exams and tracking their university and apprenticeship applications, whilst at the same time contributing to the school and local community. A few insights into what they have been doing recently include:

- A presentation to Year 11 assembly by Elle Rogers and Liam Gutteridge about the benefits of using the GoCongr Revision website in the lead up to public exams, both GCSEs and A levels. See <https://www.gocongr.com/en/>
- A presentation to the Rotary Club, Billericay by Ellie Nightingale (Year 13) and Victoria Bowden (Year 11) about World Challenge in Mongolia and Swaziland, thanking the Rotary Club also for their support in these school ventures.
- A sale of delicious pancakes on Pancake Day, with a vegan option as well as an array of tempting toppings. Proceeds will support the 6th Form Summer Prom.
- A 'Discover Risk' session in which students had the opportunity to learn about the world of work and the opportunities apprenticeships provide. We were delighted to welcome back some of our ex-students who could pass on their knowledge and experience to current 6th form students.
- An Oxbridge session in which representatives of Oxford and Cambridge visited the school to inform students about application to these universities. Year 13 applicants who have been offered places at both Oxford and Cambridge this year have also been happy to pass on their experiences to Year 12 students thinking of applying.
- A diverse range of speakers in General Studies have helped broaden the horizons of students in delivering sessions on a variety of topics, including Oxfam, Domestic Abuse, Buddhism, Global Mining, the Middle East, Drugs Education and the role of the Journalist.

The Ford Women in IT Team



On 2 February, Mrs Josefson and a group of female students attended an educational day with The Ford Women in IT Team at Ford, Dunton. Students took part in a panel discussion with IT experts from different areas of work and at different stages of their careers. They received a tour of the Dunton site facilities, completed SMART Mobility Group Activities and had an opportunity to network with other schools. Especially enjoyable was the Test Track Event, being driven at high speeds in a Ford Mustang.

All agreed this was a valuable learning experience.

TOM BAILEY

We were pleased to welcome Tom Bailey into school earlier this year. Tom, who comes from Billericay and whose sons attended The Billericay School, is the Headteacher of one of the largest schools in China.



He is Principal of JKFZ Cambridge International school in Nanchang, Jiangxi Province. This is a brand new state of the art International School for Chinese students who will study Cambridge International Examinations at IGCSE and A Level.



It is hoped that we can forge links in the future.



Just a reminder that we are still collecting both British and overseas used stamps for the RNIB. Remember that every stamp that you send us will help to benefit blind and partially sighted children and adults with the sixty plus services that the Royal National Institute of Blind People support. Stamps should have a minimum of 1cm of envelope bordering each stamp. Stamps can be left at the main school reception.

Thank you for your support!

RocketCar Project



Twelve Year 8 students took part in the Bloodhound Sponsored Rocket Car Competition at the Basildon Lower Academies on the 15 March. It was supported by a STEM ambassador (Mr Graham Jackson, Retired Ford Engineer), Mrs Barnes and Dr Pavan, offering a positive learning environment to encourage students to appreciate STEM subjects and even aspire to a STEM related career.

The project involved designing and building a model rocket-powered car. Students learnt about the design process of a strong but light chassis, designing an aerodynamic body and finally built the car. This venture is supported by Bloodhound SSC who are building the car to set a new world land speed record this summer. You can find more information about this organisation at www.bloodhoundssc.com.



Students involved are – Hannah Cox, Brooke McAlister, Courtney Gomes, Owen Davis, Sam Dekker, Arjun Vijay, Elliott Lawrence, Athena Shea, Brooke Judge, Sophie Peacock, Danny Berry and Luca Earl.

WAITROSE COMMUNITY MATTERS

A big thank you to you, your family and friends for supporting us in securing £351 from Billericay Waitrose towards the purchase of refuse bins for our school field. Thanks to Waitrose for their community support.

Additional refuse bins will support us in our efforts to maintain a clean and pleasant environment for 1700 secondary school students. We encourage our students to maintain and have pride in their environment. This is achieved through assemblies and supervision.

It will also assist us in supporting the wider community as several hundred adults and children enter the site each week to use the Sports Centre and Astro turf facilities.

6TH FORM COMPUTER SCIENCE MASTERCLASSES

An enrichment activity on offer for Year 12 students this year is the Computer Science Masterclasses organised by Dr Pavan, Deputy Head of 6th form. This is similar to the Royal Institution Maths Masterclasses that were held in the Autumn term. This latest instalment sees 27 bright young computer science students from different schools in south Essex attend the Saturday morning sessions at Billericay School. This week's session was led by a team of



Engineers from Leonardo UK (Land and Naval Defence Electronics). Part of the session focused on Virtual Reality and Stereo projection where students were able to use their mobile VR headset unit as well as experience interacting with the environment they were placed in. The 2nd part of the session challenged the students to design using Auto Cad and prepare their models for 3D printing using CubePro.



Next week's session is provided by Douglas Orr on a practical introduction to deep learning. Douglas was a pupil at KEGS in Chelmsford before studying Engineering at Cambridge for four years. Since then, he has worked for SwiftKey (now part of Microsoft) as a software engineer, working on a soft keyboard app for mobile phones, particularly in areas around machine learning & inference.



The Year 9 Royal Institution Computer Science Masterclasses will take place in May and June of this year at The Billericay School.

Billericay Soapbox Derby 2017



The Billericay School has 2 soapbox entries for the 1 May event at Sun Corner. Preparations are underway with the help of Mr Legg, our DT Technician. Year 10 team – Sophie Beaver (pictured), Ben Bleach, Tom Mitchelmore, Alex Philips and Nathan Smith (pictured) Year 12 team – Evan Collings, Tom Garrard, Tom Smith, Harry Vanson and Nick Reynolds

Medical and Social Care @ The Billericay School

The Essex Skills Board, Education and Industry STEM Programme has given sixty of our Year 9 students a fantastic opportunity to experience the medical profession first hand with Operating Theatre Live and other providers as part of the Science week. Held on Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd March, the students experienced the following over the 2 days.

Simulated Road Traffic Collision-Trauma
Students stepped onto the live road traffic scene and were briefed on assessing the safety of the scene, looking for injuries as well as how to triage and prioritise patients based on need. They worked with paramedics having access to real ambulances and rapid response vehicles to triage and treat the casualties.

Dementia Awareness
The Dementia Community Roadshow, provided students with information, advice and support about dementia. Students were also able to experience the effects of dementia via virtual reality. A Question and Answer Panel
Students had the opportunity to interact with a panel consisting of various medical professionals (paramedics, nurses, ambulance drivers, first aid responders etc). They learnt about what they do and what qualifications the needed as well as ask lots of questions.

Senior Medic Workshop
Students also experienced the Senior Medic workshop, which is a one-day event designed for pupils in KS3. The course is a medical based course set in a mobile operating theatre. Over the course of the day students dissected real anatomical specimens developing comprehensive understanding of how the human body works.

World Book Day March, Thursday 2 March

The Billericay School celebrated World Book Day in style on Thursday 2 March. In the weeks preceding World Book Day itself, Mr Pursell and Mrs Clare met with an enthusiastic student committee who were fully involved in the planning of the events. They formulated their own ideas into what was to become a very successful day. There were some exciting competitions in store for students and staff to enter into. The RBLC hosted a multitude of contests:

- A "Book Tower" competition where participants were asked questions about books, which they then had to decipher and find on the library shelves. They then stacked those books in their arms whilst trying to answer the next question.
- A "Treasure Hunt" where students had to track down the clues hidden around the school to find the hidden solution. Oliver Robinson was the "detective extraordinaire" who won this competition.
- A "Quiz Corner" which consisted of three interlinked quizzes around book themes including books into films and emojis. Jaime Fowler and Charlotte Louise Mathew were the winners.
- A fabulous book themed cake competition with a display of some 18 amazing cakes made and iced by the competitors. Mrs Berry had a difficult time judging the competition and Kayleigh Porter won with her Harry Potter inspired "Sorting Hat" cake, although they were all winners on the day with so much work going into them.

To add to this, there was an amazing second hand book sale in C5, which boasted every type of book for the amazing price of 50p each. All proceeds went to help the Readasaurus Project. To highlight the importance of Reading for Pleasure, all teachers displayed a notice on their classroom doors of their favourite book of all time, and the book they are currently reading. We would like to thank the students of the committee for their wonderful contributions to the day.



Sporting Success

CONGRATULATIONS ...



to our U14 girls basketball team who won the Essex Cup on 16 March, by beating Greensward 70-44 in the final. The girls are a credit to the school. Well done!

COUNTY GYMNASTICS

Our U14 and U19 gymnastics teams took part in County Gymnastics on 28 February. This is the biggest gymnastics competition for this level and with the top teams having many elite performers. Both of our teams have been consistently training every week since October. We are pleased to say that the U14's came 10th and U19's came 9th overall out of 34 schools which is an excellent achievement. Well done to our U19 team - Olivia Bedford, Nicole Bruce, Isabelle Urand, Anabelle Baker, Jessie Millham and Kay Davidson. Our U14 team - Rachel Tarbox, Isabella Dewell, Emily Cash, Sienna Percy, Kaitlyn Stare and Hannah Akpoduado.

British Fencing Schools Team Championship (Report by Debbie Porter)

The Billericay School were only able to send one team to the British Fencing Schools Team Championships this year due to the change of venue to Somerset. The U13 boys foil team, Kyran Porter, Jacob Lewis and Jacob Malster, made the trip down to Millfield School to compete on Sunday 26 February. It was a strong group of teams with Billericay being one of only two state schools competing. The boys finished the poule in second place having beaten Bristol Grammar 45-11 but losing to a strong Sussex House Prep team 45-33 which was a good battle. Billericay were keeping the scores close after each bout until Sussex House pulled away. This meant we were seeded in 5th position and up against 4th, Royal Grammar School from Guildford in the direct elimination. Billericay sailed through this round beating RGS 45-21. On taking the 4th seed spot, the boys were guaranteed a bronze medal but it also meant having to fence the 1st seed in the next round, the strongest team Sussex House had brought! They got to 5 bouts out of the 9 with the score 20-17 to Sussex House but then their strength showed by finally beating Billericay 45-28. The boys were very pleased with their bronze medal because a medal is what they went to get. It was an enjoyable day for all. Well done boys!

CHRIS GREEN



Chris Green who is involved with the Fencing Club which trains at The Billericay School, has been awarded the Brian Pitman Memorial Award for his fencing work in state schools and with

disabled people. *Well done, Chris*

Fencing Club News



A number of our fencers (listed below) competed at the Regional Youth Championships at the end of January. Our region covers Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire.

Everyone fenced brilliantly; for some this was their first competition. Several qualified for the National Finals of British Youth Championships to be held in Sheffield at the English Institute of Sport over the May Bank Holiday weekend.

Year 7's

Thomas Beaver, Kynan Treby, Lucas Godfrey - Qualified for U12 Epee (Bronze Medal)

Year 8's

Cooper Lynn, Max Lowman, Jacob Lewis Jacob Malster, William Richbell, Kyran Porter - Qualified for U14 Foil and U14 Epee (Bronze medal)

Year 9

Refe Tant Qualified for U16 Epee

Year 10

Sean Wright, Ellis Lynn Evan Lowman Qualified for U16 Foil (Bronze medal)

Year 11

Luke Toogood Qualified for U16 Epee (Silver medal)
Daniel Twine Qualified for U18 Sabre (Gold medal)

Year 12

Seb Pallier was with GB U20 squad in France but already had a bye so Qualified for U18 Foil

Year 13

Joseph Breedon Qualified for U18 Epee (Bronze medal)

Quite a good weekend!



PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL

We remind parents to be considerate and think of others when parking around the school. We receive several complaints each year from members of the public highlighting the dangers to our students where parents stop on the main road to drop off/collect their children. Bus stops and the grass verge should not be used for parking.

As you are aware, Basildon Council currently have building work taking place in Roman Way (just outside the main school gate) and this is compounding the situation. To safeguard our students our school gates are closed to traffic between 2.55pm and 3.15pm.

We would ask parents to find a safe, suitable stopping place away from the school. We also ask that parents do not drive into the school car park in the mornings or afternoons to drop off or collect their children unless this has been authorised by school staff.

Thank you for your co-operation.

MESSAGES TO STUDENTS

Parents are respectfully reminded that office staff are unable to routinely pass messages on to students during the school day unless they are of an urgent nature.

You will appreciate that a lesson has to be interrupted to contact a student, which disturbs the learning of the whole class.

Thank you for your co-operation and understanding should you be informed by office staff that a particular message cannot be passed on.

The Billericay School Twitter Account

All students, parents and carers are now invited to join our school **twitter feed @Billericay_Sch**

This information-only feed will provide updates on school news, events, extracurricular opportunities and revision/career advice.

We have lots of followers already but if you are not one of them why not follow us and see what is going on?

SUMMER UNIFORM - A REMINDER

Summer 2017: Students in years 8-11 may wear a summer polo shirt or a white shirt and tie.
All year 7s (2016 intake) will wear shirt and tie
Uniform policy will change to allow short sleeved white shirts to be worn during the summer term.

Summer 2018: All students will wear shirt (long or short-sleeved) and tie.

The remaining stock of summer polo shirts will be on sale online for a reduced price of £9.95 until stocks deplete - www.simmonds-ltd.com.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TUESDAY 18 APRIL	ALL YEARS RETURN FROM EASTER BREAK
WEDNESDAY 19 APRIL	FOBS MEETING
MONDAY 1 MAY	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY 29 MAY - FRIDAY 2 JUNE	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
THURSDAY 8 JUNE	UCAS INFORMATION EVENING
SATURDAY 10 JUNE	YEAR 6 PARENTS DROP IN SESSION/UNIFORM SALE
TUESDAY 13 JUNE	YEAR 8 PARENTS EVENING
WEDNESDAY 21 JUNE	FOBS MEETING
THURSDAY 22 JUNE	YEAR 7 PARENTS EVENING
FRIDAY 30 JUNE	YEAR 11/13 LEAVERS ASSEMBLY
MONDAY 3 JULY	YEAR 11 INTO 12 INDUCTION DAY
TUESDAY 11 JULY	YEAR 6 INDUCTION DAY
THURSDAY 13 JULY	SCHOOL SPORTS DAY
THURSDAY 20 JULY	SCHOOL SUMMER BREAK

UNIFORM CARD PRIZE DRAW

The results for the Uniform Card Prize draw are as follows:

The students listed below won a £10 Amazon Voucher for keeping their Uniform Cards signature-free last half term!

Year 7	Sienna Percy
Year 8	Bronwen Shand
Year 9	Charlotte Smith
Year 10	Emily Harris
Year 11	Tayla Cline

The following forms received cookies in Form on Monday 6 March for being the top forms in their house!

Edison:	ESRJ	9 cards
Scott:	SMCS	8 cards
Curie:	CHGM	8 cards
Keller:	KAEM	9 cards

Miss Mu's form (NMUA) won breakfast for being the form with the most clean Uniform Cards in the school. They enjoyed bacon sandwiches and hot chocolate.

Well done all.

