

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we draw closer to the end of the Autumn Term, I am able to reflect on an extremely rewarding period.

On 12<sup>th</sup> October, the DfE published provisional school performance data, specifically Progress 8. For the 2016 cohort, the Academy recorded a Progress 8 of 0.58 which placed it in the top 5% of schools in the country. For the 2017 cohort, the Progress 8 increased to 0.72, sustaining this exalted performance nationally. Further, in terms of notable subject performances, from a progress perspective, the 2017 combined GCSE English and Mathematics results (grade 4 and above) were in the top 1% nationally.



Source: FFT Aspire

[Click here for the DfE Performance Tables](#)

[Click here for the Progress 8 Scores of Local Schools](#)

On 2<sup>nd</sup> November, the Academy received a letter from Mrs. S. Baldwin, Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC), acknowledging the Academy's outstanding outcomes with disadvantaged pupils, and an invitation to take part in a pilot scheme to improve outcomes in other schools in the East of England.

[Click here for the Trio Partnership Letter](#)

On 14<sup>th</sup> November, Mr. R. Bassett, Education Advisor, Department of Education (DfE), visited the Academy to undertake a review of the work that is undertaken with disadvantaged pupils. In the Spring Term, the Academy is scheduled to work with two other schools, in a Lead School capacity, to assist in raising the performance of disadvantaged pupils.

On a final note, enjoy the Christmas break and I look forward to your return in the New Year.

Mr. N. Houchen  
Principal

#### ATTENDANCE

Overall attendance is currently 96.7%. This is 0.7% above the Academy's self-imposed target of 96.0% and 1.7% above the national average of 95.0%.

House	% Attendance
Ashdown	96.8
Bowland	97.3
Elvedon	96.4
Kielder	96.4
Richmond	97.0
Sherwood	97.0
Whinfell	97.0
Overall	96.7

[Click here for the Academic Year 2018-19 Letter](#)

#### CHRISTMAS JUMPER CHARITY EVENT

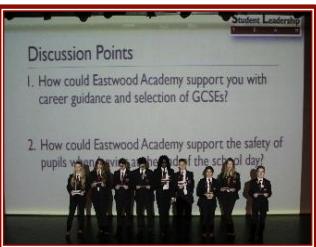
On the final day of term, pupils were allowed to wear a Christmas jumper as part of a charity event to raise money for Havens Hospices. In preparation, pupils attended an assembly from Havens Hospices advocates and watched a video detailing the work of the charity.

[Click here for the Havens Hospices Video](#)



# Pupil Success

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM



This half term, the Student Leadership Team (StLT) have delivered presentations to each year group, focused on two key discussion points they wanted the pupil body to consider. Form Captains followed up with their form groups and collated views that were fed back to the StLT.

Form Captains then met with the StLT to discuss the responses. The key points were then discussed with Mr. N. Houchen with a number of outcomes e.g. improved CCTV around the bike sheds; a relaunch of the Canteen menu in the Spring Term; amendments to the Life Skills programme in Year 10; and a formal letter to the Council regarding concerns about lighting, safety and security in public areas such as Eastwood Park.



With the Year 11 intervention and revision programme beginning in earnest after the Christmas break, the current StLT are also preparing to recruit the new Year 10 Prefects.

[Click here for more about the Student Leadership Team](#)

## SOUTHEND UNITED F.C. SCHOLARSHIP



Head Boy, Sam B. (11K) has been awarded a scholarship with Southend United Football Club from September 2018.



Sam will study Sports Science as well as training with the club. This is a fantastic opportunity for Sam and the Academy wishes him every success.

## PREFECT AWARD



The StLT nominated Matthew D. (11B) for the Monthly Prefect Award. Matthew always completes his duties with diligence and has supported the StLT over and above his regular duties.

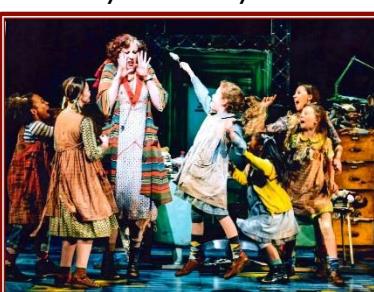
To acknowledge this achievement, Mr. N. Houchen presented Matthew with a certificate and gift voucher on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

## ANNIE THEATRE AUDITION SUCCESS

Dora Y. (7A) auditioned for a role in Annie the Musical at The Piccadilly Theatre, London in March of this year. Hundreds of girls were seen for the 7 orphan parts and after several recalls Dora was thrilled to be cast playing the character of Tessie.



Dora has loved being a part of this brilliant production playing alongside no less than 3 Miss Hannigans, including Miranda Hart, Craig Revel Horwood and currently Meera Syal. As well as performing in the shows every week Dora is now busy back in rehearsals as she will be understudying for the part of Annie and all the other orphans in the new year.



Dora was lucky enough to have the chance to perform at the Royal Variety Performance last month in front of Prince William and Kate, which was a truly amazing experience. This isn't Dora's first West End appearance. She also played the part of Lavender in Matilda the Musical last year. Dora hopes to carry on performing and has ambitions to make this her career after leaving school. Congratulations Dora!



# Pupil Success

## BOROUGH CROSS COUNTRY

On Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November, the annual Borough Cross Country Championships was held at Blenheim Park. Eastwood fielded an exceptionally strong team comprising of 80 runners who were well prepared and eager for the challenge.

The Junior and Inter Boys' Team stopped SHSB from becoming the outright Borough Champions for the 35th consecutive year, with both recording a total of 6 points. It is worth noting that Eastwood is the only school to beat SHSB since 1982.

SHSB won the Year 7, Eastwood the Year 8 and 9 and SHSB the Yr10/11. Both schools sportingly agreed to share the Wentworth Trophy.

The Junior and Inter Girls' competition saw Eastwood push SHSG extremely hard, finishing 2nd place in Year 7, 8 and 10/11 and, after exceptional running by the Year 9s, finishing 1st in Year 9.

The competition continues to be dominated by Eastwood and the two Southend grammar schools. Bring on next year's competition!



## FLAWLESS SCHOLARSHIP

Lemar-Shea S. (8W) took part in a series of dance workshops over the summer and has gained a scholarship with Flawless Dance Company.

The scholarship will provide Lemar-Shea with the opportunity to perform professionally for an entire year!



The Academy is extremely proud of Lemar for this amazing achievement. Well done!

## NATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY FINAL



On Saturday 25th November, 23 pupils competed in the National Cross Country Final in Sevenoaks, Kent. All pupils applied themselves impeccably and were a credit to the Academy throughout the day.

Each race included 162 runners from the 27 best schools throughout the country.

A special mention must go to Megan H. (9E) and Reece M. (8E) who finished 6<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> in their respective races.

### Junior Boys – 6th

Reece M. (8E), Michael C. (7R), Joshua S. (8B), Kofi A. (8B), Zach C. (8B), Diesel B-B. (7E), Cyrus L. (8E)

### Junior Boys – 12th

Max M. (10A), George H. (9A), Charlie-George P. (10K), Kristians K. (9E), Ben A. (10A), James E. (9K), Jay K. (9W), Oliver G. (9E), Robbie W. (10K)

### Inter Girls – 12th

Megan H. (9E), Madison H. (9B), Brooke W. (9K), Sophie A. (9A), Ellice Ca. (10E), Holly L. (10E), Lydia D. (9K)

# Pupil Success

## JACK PETCHEY WINNERS



On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December, Mr. N. Houchen met with the Jack Petchey Award winners to discuss their achievements and financial donations.

The winners were: Tequila W. (11K), Adanna A. (11R) and Zachary J. (9R).

Tequila received the award for her tireless mentoring and support to younger pupils, particularly those struggling with issues at home and/or in school. She has been a 'rock' to these pupils and this act of selflessness should not go unnoticed. Tequila used her prize money to purchase *The Complete Brecht Toolkit* book; a hot glue gun for set design; and the services of the Frantic Assembly Workshop.

Adanna received the award for her sustained academic achievements and leadership in her capacity as Head Girl. Adanna is the embodiment of a role model for her peers and younger pupils and is an excellent ambassador for the Academy. Adanna used her prize money to purchase CGP English Revision Books and the services of the Frantic Assembly Workshop.

Zachary received the award for shaving his hair off in the Summer Term and raising over £400 for Cancer Research UK. Zachary is an inspiration to us all. Zachary used his prize money to purchase English Language Study Guides.

## GCSE STATISTICS



In June 2017, Momin S. (11A), Alex G. (11E), Sam B. (11K), Amber E-S. (11S), Ben K. (11S) and Liam B. (11A) all sat their Statistics GCSE Exam a year early,

while they were still in Year 10. The six pupils had been attending extra lessons each week since the start of Year 9 in order to prepare for the exam and to write the Controlled Assessment. Upon receipt of their results, the pupils managed to attain one A\* and five A grades – a great achievement. The Mathematics Department couldn't be any more proud of them. Well done.

## DIVING ACHIEVEMENT



Brooke C. (7R) was recently crowned a triple Gold medallist at the regional age group competition this year. She achieved a top 6 place at the national age group competition in Sheffield, making her 6th in the country on the 3m springboard and 7th on the platform.

Brooke also attended an international competition in Bulgaria and achieved an average place of 7th against a very strong 25 girl international field.

Her final achievement this year was attending the England Diving Talent Games in which she came 5th overall.

This gave her access to the England Diving Team Z selection which will involve her attending diving camps across the country to develop her skills towards an elite level. A fantastic achievement Brooke – well done!



[Click here for the Echo Article](#)

## ALADDIN THEATRE AUDITION SUCCESS



Matthew G. (7W) has recently been successful in auditioning for a part in the Towngate Theatre's Christmas pantomime, *Aladdin*. This production was also recently named by *The Stage* as the "Number One Choice for Pantomime Picks for 2017" putting it above all other London shows and national performances.

Matthew has been rehearsing all hours of the day and has still managed to keep up with his hefty school workload. Congratulations Matthew.



# Events

## YEAR 11 DROP-DOWN WORKSHOPS



During November, Year 11 pupils took part in a series of 'drop-down' sessions covering study skills and revision. The presentations and resources can be accessed via the link below.

[Click here for the Revision and Study Skills Resources](#)

## FOOD BANK COLLECTION

During December, 9S decided to organise a food parcel for the local foodbanks in Southend. Members of the form group have been really generous in bringing in a range of items that will help families who may be struggling over the Christmas period.



Thirteen million people live below the poverty line in the UK, with individuals going hungry every day for a range of reasons, from benefit delays to receiving an unexpected bill on a low income. It's great that 9S are helping those in need.

## 2016 HEAD GIRL RETURNS

On Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December, the 2016 Head Girl, Lauren M. returned to the Academy to host a Q&A session with Year 11 pupils.

## LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS



In the final week of November, pupils from all year groups performed the horror-comedy musical *Little Shop of Horrors* to five audiences. After two matinee performances to local primary schools, the cast entertained and amazed friends and family with a production that had energy and professionalism and showcased the talents and commitment of all involved.



Lauren answered questions ranging from GCSE preparation, applications to FE institutions and careers advice.

All pupils found the session valuable and the Academy is extremely grateful to Lauren.

Please contact Mr. N. Dunn with details of former pupils.



Have you changed your contact details recently?  
If so please make sure you come in and tell us or email [enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk)

# Extra-Curricular

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACCREDITATION

The Student Leadership Accreditation (SLA) is an innovative way of formally recognising the leadership skills of Year 11 pupils, encompassing all activities pupils are engaged in whether they are in the classroom, across the Academy, or in the wider community.

Pupils are required to create a portfolio in which they gather evidence to showcase the skills that they have developed. They grade their own work using a self-assessment framework that covers ten core skill sets, grouped into three themes:

- Developing myself
- Working with others
- Contributing to my community



Over 100 Year 11 pupils have been entered for the SLA this year. In order to showcase their leadership skills, pupils have had to work with groups of pupils in the lower school, leading a series of 5 lessons that will be of benefit to them. During this term, Year 11 pupils have been entirely responsible for the planning, preparation of resources and execution of their devised sessions. The Year 11 cohort worked tirelessly to plan and deliver these sessions which were very successful. Activities included team-building games designed to raise confidence and self-esteem, a variety of sporting and fitness activities, the creation of art work and the composition of music. Feedback from all pupils was very positive, with many stating that they did not want the sessions to finish!

Congratulations to the Year 11 pupils for the successful delivery of these sessions. Mrs. Stanley looks forward to receiving your portfolios in due course!



## SCHOOL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT



On the evening of Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, a captivated audience at The Salvation Army in Leigh-on-Sea were enthralled by a Christmas concert featuring performances from The Academy Choir, The Academy Percussion Ensemble and other solo and ensemble items.

Highlights of the evening included a delightful piano solo performed by Maia Ley, some fantastic choral singing and the percussive rendition of *Popcorn* and *Lay all Your Love on Me*, which always brings the house down!

The Academy has received a letter of appreciation from The Salvation Army which states, 'The items performed were of the highest calibre and the deportment and behaviour of the students was a credit to your school'.



[Click here for the Salvation Army Letter](#)

## NETBALL



Congratulations to the Year 7 and 8 Girls' Netball Teams who achieved Bronze medals at a tournament held at Shoeburyness Academy during November.

Both teams have also been entered into the Southend School Netball League, which is operating for the first time this year.

# Celebrating Success

Congratulations to all pupils who were presented with certificates in the end of term House assemblies.

ASHDOWN



BOWLAND



ELVEDON



KIELDER



RICHMOND



SHERWOOD



WHINFELL



Have you changed your contact details recently?  
If so please make sure you come in and tell us or email [enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@eastwood.southend.sch.uk)