

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

As we enter 'exam season' this is always a particularly gruelling time of year. Year 11 pupils have been relentless in their attendance to scheduled revision and intervention sessions and I sincerely hope this is reflected in their performance and outcomes.

Should parents or pupils have any questions relating to GCSEs, revision, examination timetables, or any other related topics, these can be accessed via the link below.

Click here for information on [Exams](#)

This time of year also sees a change in student leadership. I would like to personally thank the 2018/19 Student Leadership Team (StLT) for their work throughout the year. In particular, their contribution during the Ofsted inspection in December was a high point. I felt the team reflected the Academy's ethos and me personally in a way that made me feel immensely proud as Principal; for that alone, I am forever indebted to the team.

Click here for the [Ofsted Report 2018-2019](#)

To acknowledge the StLT's contribution, they were invited to a Rewards Lunch on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> May where they were presented with a certificate and voucher.



As the outgoing team departs, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the newly elected StLT (opposite) and look forward to working with them during the academic year 2019/20.

Mr. N. Houchen  
Principal

### ATTENDANCE

Overall attendance is currently 96.3%. This is 0.3% above the Academy's target of 96.0% and 1.8% above the national average of 94.6%.

House	% Attendance
Ashdown	95.9
Bowland	97.4
Elvedon	96.5
Kielder	95.5
Richmond	96.6
Sherwood	97.2
Whinfell	95.9
Overall	96.3

### ATTENDANCE BREAKDOWN 2018-19

% Attendance	Number of Pupils	% of the Number of Pupils on Roll
100%	214	22%
99%	169	17%
98%	156	16%
97%	100	10%
96%	112	11%
<96%	249	24%

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM 2019-20



# Pupil Success

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

During this half term, both the outgoing and incoming StLTs facilitated the latest round of Student Voice by coordinating and collating the feedback from pupils. By way of a follow up, Mr. N. Houchen met with the incoming StLT on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May. The meeting was over an hour in length and a range of topics were discussed, along with a series of agreed action points. In particular, the key issues agreed were:

- External accredited training for Prefects to support their peers and younger children.
- Prefects organised on House lines to assist with transition (Year 6 - Year 7) including the appointment of a designated (named) Prefect to each House.
- The appointment and deployment of Subject Ambassadors.
- A review of the Rewards System, in particular the frequency and nature of the rewards associated with attendance.



## PREFECT AWARD



The StLT nominated Heidi R. (10A) for the Monthly Prefect Award. Heidi has made an excellent start to her role as a Prefect. She always completes her duties diligently and has supported many after school events. To acknowledge this achievement, Mr. N. Houchen presented Heidi with a certificate and gift

voucher on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May.

## DIVING SUCCESS



Brooke C. (8R) attended her first GB Junior Elite Diving Championships in the Easter holidays. The event, held in Sheffield, is the biggest GB competition a junior can enter. Brooke has only been competing in diving for just over 3 years, so to have made it to this stage is a huge step in such a short space of time.

Brooke competed on all 3 boards - 1m, 3m and the platforms - against the best girls in her age group in the country and representatives from other nations such as Canada, America and Turkey.

On the first day, Brooke competed in the platforms which involved 7 dives on the 5m and the 7.5m boards. Brooke qualified for the final and managed to finish in a highly respectable 5<sup>th</sup> place.

On the second day, Brooke competed in the 3m springboard competition. She didn't perform to her usual standard and fell outside of the final 6 places, but took an amazing 10<sup>th</sup> place, making her 10<sup>th</sup> in the country for her age group on 3m springboard.

On the last day, Brooke returned to the form of the first day and achieved another 5<sup>th</sup> place in the final, making her 5<sup>th</sup> in the country on the 1m springboard.

Being a finalist at the Junior Elite Level of competition will now mean Brooke will be invited by British Diving to partake in an assessment for the TeamY squad. Brooke is currently in the TeamZ squad and not all athletes make it to the assessment stage for the next level.

In summary, it's been a pretty amazing year. Well done Brooke – we look forward to reporting on your success in 2019-20.



# Pupil Success

## ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP PROJECTS



Year 9 have recently been completing Active Citizenship projects. One group chose to tackle the statement, "Young people don't care about the elderly anymore". A few groups pooled together ideas and resources and arranged for a visit from a local care

home, Admirals Court. The pupils involved were: Daisy A. (9W), Natasha B. (9E), Ella B. (9K), Daisy B. (9A), Poppy C. (9K), Madison F.-H. (9R), Inara F. (9S) Grace L. (9A), Amy M. (9W), Isabelle M. (9K) and Elyssa S.-H. (9B).



The pupils initially held a cake sale to raise funds, then used these to put on afternoon tea for the visitors and their carers. The ladies had a fantastic time and really enjoyed engaging in conversation and playing games with the pupils.



In addition to the visit, the pupils also arranged for two visitors from a care home to attend the Academy's Music Concert on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April, and also arranged for a group of younger girls from their Girls' Brigade to visit a local shelter.

Another group, comprising of Amelia B. (9K), Natalie M. (9R) and Kira M. (9S) decided to look at the issue of charities not receiving enough recognition and funding, in particular Mind. They organised a quiz night and have so far raised £512; a fantastic result!

Jochebel N. (9E) also tackled the same topic, although chose to work independently. She arranged for a speaker from Mind to attend the Academy and delivered an assembly on the work the charity undertakes and the importance of volunteers.

Similarly, Tia A. (9K) Grace S. (9S) and Jess W. (9B) addressed mental health and looked specifically at the issue of cyber bullying. They held a 'wear blue for mental health' day at their dance school and raised £213.50 – another super effort!



## DANCING SUCCESS

Anna G. (10W) recently danced in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with 'Coppelia' for the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary performance of The Chelmsford Ballet Company. She has previously performed in *A Wizard of Oz* at the Towngate Theatre with Rare Productions and in *Peter Pan* with Merlin Theatre Company.



## BRILLIANT CLUB



Since January, twelve pupils from the Academy have been taking part in the Brilliant Club, an organisation which aims to widen access to university. This has involved a trip to the University of East Anglia (UEA),

numerous seminar sessions, and culminated with the pupils having to write a 2,000 word dissertation.

Despite it being on an incredibly complex topic, and marked using A-Level grading criteria, all twelve pupils achieved a 2:1 or a 1<sup>st</sup> for their dissertation. To acknowledge this achievement, they attended Cambridge University for a graduation ceremony on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May. Prior to the ceremony, there were two lecture-type sessions designed to make the pupils reflect on their hard work, as well as consider what they might like to do in the future. Lunch was provided in the Grand Hall and an undergraduate also gave them a tour of the university.

Before the certificates were given out, two speakers gave their experience of being a part of the Brilliant Club – one of which, was Eastwood's own, Anna G. (10P). Despite virtually no warning, Anna spoke with a confident eloquence to about 100 people, and really did the Academy proud. Following this, the pupils collected their certificates to much-deserved applause, and it capped a 'brilliant' five months. Whatever the twelve pupils go on to do in the future, they have demonstrated remarkable ability and diligence; one which sets them in good stead for life beyond the Academy.



# Life Skills Events

## BANK OF ENGLAND GUEST SPEAKER



As part of the Year 9 Life Skills course, pupils are learning about Financial Capability. To enhance pupils' understanding of money, interest rates and lending, we were lucky to be awarded a guest speaker from the Bank of England. On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, pupils from Years 7-9 listened eagerly to a presentation from an employee at the Bank of England, Mr. G. Wiseby. He explained the role of the Bank of England and his career progression. Pupils were thrilled when he gave them example packs of destroyed bank notes to inspect (which had been shredded). Pupils learnt about the different notes, the Bank's role in interest rates, and the value of gold, including how much is actually kept in the vaults! Pupils were able to participate in a quiz to test their knowledge and the event concluded with a thoroughly enjoyable Q&A session.



## HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS SPEAKER



As part of the Year 9 Life Skills course, pupils in Year 9 and 10 discuss Healthy Relationships. Week commencing 29<sup>th</sup> April, Mr. O. Huxter from Essex County Council Fire and Rescue Service delivered a presentation to the pupils. It was an interactive session which covered the aspects which constitute a healthy relationship and the signs of an unhealthy relationship. Pupils were given various scenarios covering consent and domestic and emotional abuse. Pupils discussed the signs, how to identify these and where they can go for support.

## LIFE SKILLS AND FIRST AID



In February, the Government announced that from 2020 it will be compulsory for all schools to deliver First Aid lessons. At the Academy, Year 10 pupils have already started to learn the core elements of First Aid during their Life Skills lessons. Pupils have been supported by members of Academy staff who are trained in First Aid, resources from St. John's Ambulance and the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

In the first session, pupils were taught the reasons for the recovery position and given step by step demonstrations before practising on each other.



In session 2, the recovery position was practised again before pupils were introduced to 'CPR manikin'. The Academy received 30 free manikins from the BHF to enable pupils to learn and practise CPR. After demonstrations and videos from the BHF, pupils had to inflate their manikin. They were surprised at how difficult it was to make the manikin 'click' to show that their CPR 'pushes' were effective.



Other sessions have included anxiety attacks, techniques to practice mindfulness, and how to treat burns and common injuries. Pupils have been engaged throughout and have really valued these sessions.

## Events

### YPRES HISTORY TRIP

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April, after the resounding success of last year, we decided to do an almost carbon-copy of it this year. This included requesting the same tour guide – Frank, who had previously been in the Territorial Army - and he did not disappoint. On reaching our first destination, he explained how the trench system started and developed, giving the pupils a ‘warts and all’ understanding of life on the frontline. Pupils were then allowed

time to move round the network of preserved trenches. Shortly after this we visited Hill 62, where the allied and enemy trenches were less than 25m apart. Frank also explained how gas masks improved during the war, from a urine-soaked handkerchief to one which is more suited to actually saving your life.



We then moved on to a series of trench systems, cemeteries and a museum to chart the evacuation route which injured soldiers would have faced. This allowed pupils to see a range of weapons and have a go at carrying someone on a stretcher. We were lucky enough to visit the grave of William B. (9R) Great Great Grandfather, Ralf Robinson, who had earned promotion and a medal for his brave service. After an emotional talk from Frank at the Lijssenthoek cemetery, we went back into the town for dinner, before walking to the Menin Gate for the Last Post Ceremony. Three pupils were chosen to lay the wreath, Poppy C. (9K), William B. (9R) and Reuben A. (9B) with Reuben writing a poignant message on behalf of the Academy. Pupils were respectful - as we knew they would be - and it capped a brilliant day, one which will prove enormously useful when it comes to their GCSEs in Year 11 and one which pupils will never forget.



### GEOGRAPHY CLUB – A HUGE A’CHIVE’MENT



As part of our ecosystems topic, the pupils planted and decorated herbs to sell to the staff at the Academy. Pupils successfully raised £100, which will go to two amazing charities that work to protect our environment - Plastic Oceans UK and Rainforest Trust UK.

Ms E. Potts and Mrs. N. Lillywhite would like to thank the pupils of the Geography Club and the staff for their support with this project.



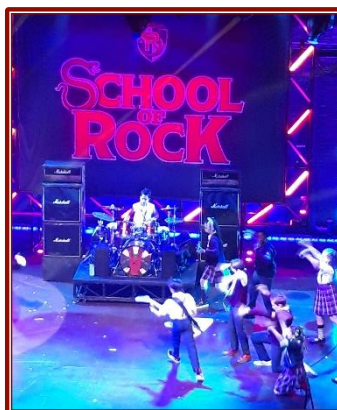
### CHARITY HEAD SHAVE

On Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April, Mr. S. Harrison braved the shave for Cancer Research UK. Pupils and staff were invited to come and watch in the Main Hall. The turnout was incredible with pupils from all years coming to support Mr. S. Harrison. The Academy raised an amazing £575 which was added to a grand total of £1350!



### SCHOOL OF ROCK

On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 40 pupils from Years 7 – 10 travelled to London to watch the theatre production of School of Rock. Pupils and staff had a great time on the trip. There was an added level of excitement knowing that Calypso B. (8S) was performing and Wednesday marked her 100<sup>th</sup> show. Congratulations Calypso for a fantastic show!





# Duke of Edinburgh

## DOFE BRONZE PRACTICE EXPEDITIONS

Over the first two weekends of May, 164 Year 10 pupils completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) practice expedition in the 'wild woods' of Hockley. Having spent the last 9 months preparing for this epic voyage, the pupils became mini Bear Grylls when they put all of their newly acquired skills to the test. An early start on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May saw the groups trekking through Cherry Tree Orchard, and through many fields to cover a distance of 20km. Armed with their route cards, tracings, maps and copious amounts of sweets and fizzy drinks, the pupils had to pass through a number of check points manned by their assessors and leaders. All of the groups successfully managed to navigate their way back to the campsite.



Dinner was an eye opener with menus ranging from savoury rice, vegetables, Italian hams, spinach and ricotta pasta,

carbonara and the old favourite, pasta and hotdogs! Mr. D. Bracknell, as always, organised the bonfire and pupils suddenly descended to toast marshmallows and discuss the hot topic of Avengers Endgame.

The weekend was genuinely one of the coldest that we have had in a long time, and after a day of walking the pupils were quickly in bed ready for their early morning wakeup.

Breakfast was rather impressive with pancakes, hash browns, eggs and beans dominating the menus. Most groups left by 9 a.m. and, after a day of walking in hail storms and rain, returned to the site exhausted but exhilarated by their success.

There were so many standout moments in terms of attitude and commitment and all of the staff agreed that the pupils were, without doubt, the best group that we have ever had on the DofE Award.



## DOFE BRONZE PRACTICE EXPEDITIONS

The second weekend ran equally smoothly other than our early morning call when three pupils woke up half the camp at 5 a.m. screaming because of a mutant spider in their tent. I have never heard three boys scream so loudly!

Hot dogs and pasta dominated the menus again, although one group cooked treacle pudding and another group brought their own frying pan and flipped pancakes in a way that rivalled Jamie Oliver.

Mr. D. Piercy made a surprise visit and got stuck in helping the pupils put up tents which they were very relieved about! Mr. J. De'ath had his first experience of a DofE weekend and passed with flying colours - he is now in competition with Mr. D. Bracknell as chief bonfire starter.



Stand out pupils included: Dylan B. (10A), Terry-Lee S. (10A) and Jay K. (10W) for the boys and Morgan F. (10E) for the girls; all of whom helped staff and other pupils from the moment they set foot on camp.

As usual, there is so much effort behind the scenes and the weekends could not run if it were not for the hard work of all of the staff who give up hours of their time, their sanity and their sleep.

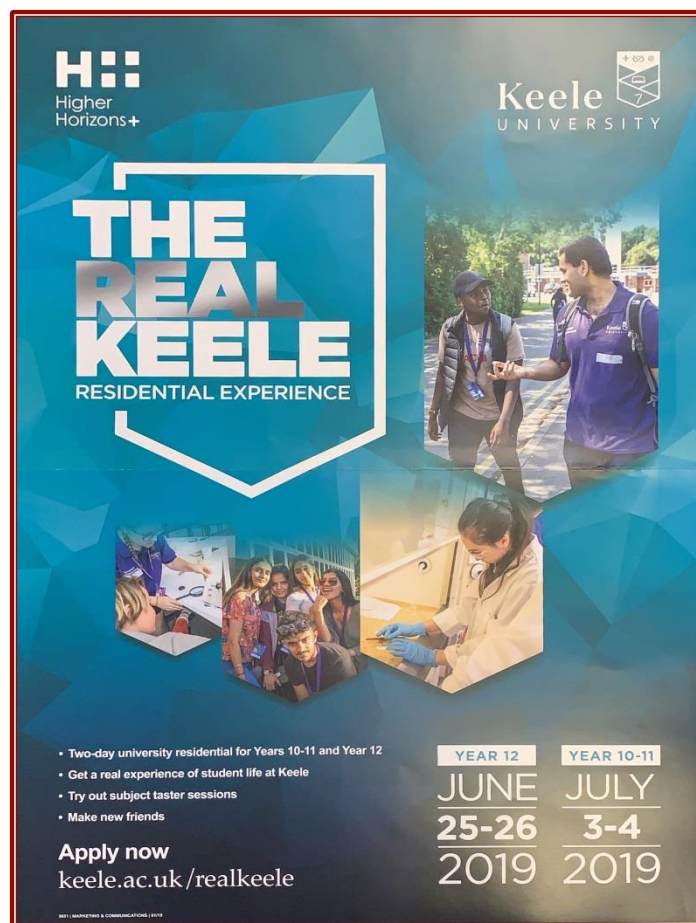


Thank you to Mr. D. Bracknell, Mr. J. De'ath, Ms L. Guichard, Mr. S. Harrison, Ms K. Jones, Mrs. M. Pacey, Ms E. Potts, Ms O. Stead, and our external helpers, Mr M. Barker, Mr J. Pacey and Mr. S. Williams.

In a few weeks the pupils will progress onto their final expedition in deepest, darkest Danbury, which will certainly test their navigation skills.



# Careers



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YEAR 12	YEAR 10-11
JUNE	JULY
25-26	3-4
2019	2019



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## Further information for Pupils and Parents

Career path information - [http://www.businessonsea.co.uk/bos\\_careersinfo.aspx](http://www.businessonsea.co.uk/bos_careersinfo.aspx)

Labour market information - [http://www.businessonsea.co.uk/bos\\_lmi.aspx](http://www.businessonsea.co.uk/bos_lmi.aspx)

Careers advice for parents - <https://www.careersadviceforparents.org/>

Apprenticeships - [Parental Guide](#)

Finding, applying and interviewing for jobs - [http://www.businessonsea.co.uk/bos\\_jobsearch.aspx](http://www.businessonsea.co.uk/bos_jobsearch.aspx)

By the end of September, all Year 11 pupils are guaranteed an offer of a post-16 learning place that meets their needs. Those who have not secured an offer should contact the Head of Careers, Mr. N. Dunn.

On Results Day, Mr. N. Dunn will be available, along with a representative from Connexions. Should Year 11 pupils need to contact Mr. N. Dunn over the summer, he can be contacted via [NDunn@eastwood.southend.sch.uk](mailto:NDunn@eastwood.southend.sch.uk)