

Lisa Charge reporting... "It's a ten from Len!"

Last term the Year 10 GCSE Dance class had the opportunity to visit Pineapple Dance Studios in Covent Garden, London. The visit allowed pupils to participate in the different dance classes on offer at the studios. On this occasion, pupils performed a jazz and dancehall class. All the pupils worked incredibly hard, learning the new and challenging dance steps rapidly so they could perform at the end of the classes.



It was fantastic to see the pupils embracing these challenges, enjoying the experience as well as working outside their comfort zones and trying some new styles! Both dance teachers were extremely impressed by their efforts and standard of dancing! Well done!



Headlines by Andy Hodgkinson

WELCOME BACK

I hope everyone had an enjoyable half term break and has returned refreshed and ready for another productive half term. This is always a busy time of year, so please be aware that all key dates are available on our school website. In particular, please can I remind you that Friday 18th November is an Inset day and school will finish for the Christmas holidays at 12.25pm on Wednesday 21st December. We then return on Monday 9th January 2017.

ROAD SAFETY

As the nights draw in, please can I remind pupils of the need to be sensible when crossing roads.

In particular, roads such as the London Road are very busy and it is vitally important that pupils do not take unnecessary risks nor assume that drivers have seen them. I would be very grateful if you would reinforce this message at home. Thank you.

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING

Please can I remind parents/carers of pupils in Year 11 that we have our Sixth Form Open Evening on Tuesday 8th November at 6.30pm.

Parents' Time

A member of the Leadership Team will be available to see parents without appointment:

9:00am-9:45am Monday - Friday

5:00pm-5:45pm Thursdays



Book of the Week

HELL AND HIGH WATER

By Tanya Landman

An historical novel with a difference. Caleb is distraught when his innocent father is convicted for theft and sentenced to be hanged. An intervention from the Bishop means he will be deported to the Colonies instead. However, Caleb is left alone to find the aunt he never knew he had. Life is hard with his aunt, her baby daughter and her step-daughter, Letty. The discovery of a drowned man's body is just the start for Caleb and Letty, as they begin to realise things are not what they should be. Who can be trusted? An exciting and intelligent historical read.

SHORT-LISTED FOR THE
ESSEX BOOK AWARD 2016/17
WILL IT WIN?



ESSEX BOOK AWARD LAUNCH



Last week, a minibus of eager pupils from the Library's Book Club travelled to Great Baddow High School for the launch of this year's Essex Book Awards. With

much anticipation, the six short-listed books were revealed to us by writer Dave Cryer and Allison King, from the Essex School Library Services. Dave introduced each book by reading out the very beginning and then invited pupils to choose drama scripts he had prepared to act out. It was fantastic to watch our pupils throw themselves into their performances, mixing so easily with pupils from other schools; a wonderful opportunity to discover each book through the medium of drama. As always, there was even a performance from the Librarians, which showed some dubious acting talents! We all came away eager to start reading. Which book will be our favourite?

DUTY PUPILS

Thank you for all your help:

Sean, Elise, Finley & Madison (8AHu)
Arthur, Leah, Max, Ben, Max & Alfie (8ENi)

Pupil Services

RAYLEIGH TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY COMPETITION 2016

RAYLEIGH THROUGH THE EYES OF THE PUBLIC 2016

Residents are invited to submit printed photographs (7" x 5" size) depicting life in Rayleigh 2016.

Please label all photographs on the reverse with contact details.

Please hand in or post entries to: Rayleigh Town Council, The Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Bull Lane, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 8TQ



Photographs will not be returned and may be used by the Town Council in future publications and promotions. Please gain any individual's permission on close-up photographs.

Berlin Trip July 2016

 **Olympisches Stadion** 

Gabrielle Wadie reporting...

In July 2016 17 pupils and 3 members of staff went on a 5-day trip to Berlin. We visited all the main attractions of Germany's capital city: Potsdamer Platz; Checkpoint Charlie; the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche; the Story of Berlin Museum with the Cold War Nuclear Bunker below; the Brandenburg Gate and Berlin Cathedral. We enjoyed a 'Nightseeing' tour by bus and a river cruise. The high point of the trip was literally the Fernsehturm (the TV tower) which was built by the German Democratic Republic in the late 60s to show off their building prowess. At a height of 368 metres we had stunning views of the whole city.



Checkpoint Charlie

On a serious note, we learnt a lot about the Nazi period with a visit to the Topography of Terror exhibition. This taught us about the horror experienced by those persecuted by Hitler. We also learnt about the hardship the Berliners experienced in the 1960s, 70s and 80s as the Berlin Wall separated the city. Parts of the Berlin Wall still stand today and the exhibitions along Bernauer Strasse were really interesting.

The tour of the Olympic Stadium was fascinating and pupils loved posing at the press desk underneath the stadium. We sat where Angela Merkel would sit in the VIP area (Ehrenloge) and saw where Hitler would have (reluctantly) given Jesse Owens his medal in the 1936 games.



If you will be studying German in Year 10 and are interested in coming to Berlin in July 2017, please see Mrs Wadie for further details.