

Hannah donates to The Little Princess Trust



My name is Hannah and I have recently donated almost 12 inches of my hair to a charity called the Little Princess Trust. This is a charity where they make wigs for little girls who have cancer and have had chemotherapy. Most of the time, these girls unfortunately lose their hair. I've seen the horrible side effects of chemotherapy and I've always wanted to help so this was my way

of helping. I hope that I've made a little girl's day a brighter one.

Headlines by Andy Hodgkinson

WELCOME BACK

I hope everyone has had an enjoyable half-term break, especially those pupils who went on the Ski trip and the New York trip.

This half-term is slightly longer than the previous one, and there are a number of key dates which, as always, are on our website. However, I would like to draw your attention to the following dates: Thursday 2nd March is Year 9 Parents' Evening; Tuesday 21st March is Year 9 Aspirations' Day and Options Evening. Friday 24th/Saturday 25th March is the Modern Foreign Languages residential. The term ends on 31st March when School finishes at 12.30pm.

"FUND THE 8%"

This week, all Essex Secondary Headteachers have sent a letter to parents and carers (see attached) regarding ongoing budget cuts for schools. Clearly we

will continue to do everything in our power to ensure standards are maintained but, as I am sure you will understand from the letter, Essex Headteachers are greatly concerned about budgets going forward.

STAFFING UPDATE

We are, once again, in a very good position regarding staffing next year. However, I am sad to say that **Denise Ormes**, Head of Drama, has now decided to retire. Denise has been ill with cancer for some time, and feels this is the right thing to do for her and her family. I would like to thank her for all her excellent work in the School over many years. **Maria Shangolis**, a member of our Leadership Team, will continue to oversee the department in the interim and Denise will be staying in touch with us and popping in to see how everyone is getting on!

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



Your weekly link with the school

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Book of the Week

SKULLDUGGERY PLEASANT
by Derek Landy

Meet the Skulduggery Pleasant, wise-cracking detective, powerful magician, master of dirty tricks and burglary (in the name of the greater good of course). Then there's his sidekick, Stephanie. She's, well, she's a twelve year old girl. With a pair like this on the case, evil had better watch out...

The first in the best-selling *Skulduggery Pleasant* series.

DEREK LANDY
in school

Thursday 23rd February!



READING WELL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT ESSEX LIBRARIES

One in ten teenagers experience a mental health issue during their adolescence. Reading Well for Young People is a scheme to help young people aged 13-18 years manage their mental health, wellbeing and resilience using recommended reading.

<http://libraries.essex.gov.uk/children-and-young-adults/young-adults/reading-well-for-young-adults/>

You can reserve any of the books mentioned free of charge. Online reservations are easy, free and delivered to the library of your choice.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING PUPILS FOR ACHIEVING THEIR BRONZE REWARD BADGES:

ALICE (8AWE)
MOLLIE (8AWE)
ALEX (8SJA)
OLIVIA (8SJA)
EMMA (8CHO)
ELLA-ROSE (8AWE)

SILVER BADGES:
ZOE (8AWE)
STEPHANIE (8CHO)



24th February 2017

DUTY PUPILS

Thank you for all your help:

Nathan & Samuel (8SJa)
Gemma & Tino (8AWe)
Charlie (8JBo)
Jamie, George & Amy (8DGa)

Pupil Services

THE PTA HAVE ADVENTURE ISLAND TICKETS FOR SALE:

BIG BANDS: £15.00

SEA LIFE TICKETS FOR £4.00

TINA: 0797 3765320
MICHELLE: 0784 6620554

Marie Curie
Cancer Care



Please support the Great Daffodil Appeal 2017.

We have badges available in reception for a suggested donation of £1.00.

Thank you.

<https://www.mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil>

LOST PROPERTY

OUR PUPIL SERVICES AND PE DEPARTMENTS BOTH HAVE LOTS OF UNCLAIMED UNIFORM & PE KIT (INCLUDING TRAINERS).

PLEASE DO ENCOURAGE YOUR CHILDREN TO COME AND HAVE A LOOK.



Ski Trip 2017



“Donut of the Day!”
Billy (10MCu)

Simon Field reporting...

On 10th February, pupils and staff departed for the slopes of the Stubai Valley, Austria. After a long coach journey we finally arrived at our hotel. Our first day of skiing was on the Sunday and for many this would be their first time up in the mountains. Prior to arriving, the level of snowfall was superb with over 2m of snow at the top of the glacier. The pupils and staff enjoyed the best weather the trip has ever witnessed with glorious sunshine for the whole week. All pupils fully appreciated the views and the fantastic landscapes.

The beginners started off slowly on the nursery slopes and after a few days they were up on the lifts. Over the next few days the skiing improved and the stories emerged of pupils falling over and stopping chair lifts. The craziest story of the day was rewarded by wearing the pink ‘Donut of the Day’ T shirt.

On the last morning the annual slalom race was organised by the instructors. Every pupil raced against the clock to see who would be the fastest. Again, some classic falls and stacks were witnessed by everyone on the slope. Oliver Croft was the fastest down the course.

All pupils and staff enjoyed themselves over the week. There were many memorable moments had by all. To those pupils leaving this year please continue to ski and maybe one day organise your own trip.



The Beginner Group



Megan (10JTL), Khushi (8AHu),
Asher (10LRi) & Lilly (8JBo)



Abby (10RCL, Tasmin (10EBr)
& Isobelle (9AGo)



Group Photo



Bowling Night