

Setting the bar high!



I would like to congratulate Holly (8Mi) who came first in the high jump at the recent District Athletics Competition. Due to this superb achievement, Holly was then invited to represent the Castle Point & Rochford team for the Essex Athletic Championships. Holly's performance was absolutely incredible! Not only did she set herself a new personal best, she finished third in the county jumping a superb 1.39m!
Lisa Charge



Headlines by Andy Hodgkinson

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD

I am delighted to say the school has, once again, been re-accredited with the prestigious International Schools Award. This recognises the work we do to develop our pupils as global citizens, to foster tolerance and understanding, and raise awareness of international issues. It says a great deal about our pupils that the assessors recognise the excellent attitudes they display.

EBacc (GCSE results)

Although our high EBacc entry at GCSE (pupils entered for English, Maths, Double Science, a Humanity and a Language) does not contribute positively to our overall Value Added/Progress 8 data (this will be available on the DfE website later next month) as these subjects are far from easy, we are, nonetheless, proud of the fact

that our EBacc entry is over double the national average, and our EBacc pass rate is also far higher. Of course, the EBacc is not right for every pupil, and we always aim to ensure we offer a broad and balanced curriculum that prepares pupils well for their next steps. This year 35% have achieved the EBacc in full, compared to a national average of 23% last year.

TEXT BOOKS AND COMPUTERS

Although we no longer have funds during austerity for more ambitious building projects, we are clear that resources should be spent on teachers and support staff, text books and computers, which make the biggest difference to pupils' learning. To this end, we have ordered in a large number of textbooks across curriculum areas and will continue to upgrade our IT resources whenever we can.

YEAR 7 ACADEMIC MONITORING VISITS

As in previous years, we will be having Academic Induction meetings for new families during the last week before October half-term, and to this end, a letter will be sent out shortly with more information.

DUTY PUPILS

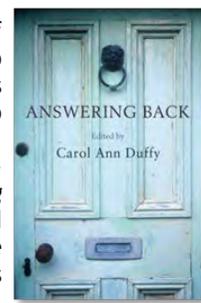
Thank you for all your help:

- Ronnie, Oliver, Isabelle & Reggie (8EPo)
- Alexander & Lucy (8MLw)
- Molly & Lucy (8NGa)
- Faye (8SMY)
- Courtney (8CWj)
- Pupil Services*

Book of the Week

ANSWERING BACK: LIVING POETS REPLY TO THE POETRY OF THE PAST
by Carol Ann Duffy

Carol Ann Duffy has invited fifty of her peers to choose and respond to a poem from the past. The result is a collection of voices that speak to one another across the centuries. Teasing, arguing, echoing and - ultimately - illuminating, *Answering Back* is a vibrant, fascinating and timeless anthology, compiled by one of the nation's favourite poets.



Perfect for National Poetry Day - Thursday 28th September!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please remember to clearly label school uniform with your child's name. If it is lost we can then return the items.

We already have many items of lost property so please do come and have a look in Pupil Services. Thank you.



National Poetry Day

THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

NATIONAL POETRY DAY

Which means it's time for the **Annual Library Poetry Competition!**

Simply write a poem about **any subject** you like, but if you're stuck for ideas, this year's national theme is **"FREEDOM"**

Or check out some of the poetry books in the Library for inspiration. Funny poems, silly poems, serious poems - we have something for everyone!

Please hand in your entries to Mrs Waghorn in the Library

by **MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER**



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



Art Department



Experimental responses to life drawing



Sculpture by Alex (11JTL)



Year 11 visit to Tate Britain

We have had a fantastic year in the Art Department with very successful results: 83% A*-C at GCSE and 100% A*-B at A level. The pupils' artwork has gone from strength to strength with exciting displays adorning the walls of the whole school, helping to create a stimulating and attractive environment for learning as well as creating a welcoming atmosphere for visitors to the school.

3 of our A Level students had their work recognised in the highly prestigious Royal Academy's student summer online exhibition. There were 2500 entries and our students made the showcase 65 with 1 going on to be selected for the final 49. This was an amazing achievement. All of our A level students went on to their first choice courses.

We have had artist visitors to talk to our students, run interesting and rewarding trips to museums and exhibitions and forged strong links with many further and higher education establishments.

The Art department has an open door policy, welcoming pupils to work on their artwork outside of lesson time, and our pottery club has been busy making some fantastic ceramic work. Both our moderators commented on how exciting our clay work looks.

We continue to support numerous community projects, sometimes working on cross-curricular projects like our work with RE on the Christmas Tree project for the Holy Trinity Church. *Emyr Williams*



Painting by Annie



Years 10 and 12 at the RA Summer Exhibition 2017



Slab and coiled stoneware fired structures