

# Parent Newsletter

In place of our usual Friday bulletin, please find a few photographs and details below giving a small insight into the range of activities students have participated in this term.

Thank you to all parents, students and staff for their support in making these activities happen; we are already looking forward to what the next year will bring!

## Sports Day

We had a fabulous sports day this year, even in the heat! It was great to see students from all form groups participating and just as fabulous to hear them singing away together out on the field! We also can't easily forget the success of sponge the teacher, which raised £145 for the Duke of Edinburgh students.

Results and some photographs from the day are below. Huge congratulations to our winning form groups.

### Year 7

1st ADN  
2nd CEL  
3rd FCG  
4th MRD  
5th DOR  
6th OKA

### Year 8

1st LHS  
2nd LNI  
3rd NHN  
4th JWG  
5th LAD  
6th KKA  
7th SBS

### Year 9

1st AFE  
2nd LBK  
3rd MGD  
4th ATS  
5th MBA  
6th SDS













## Support Hub Visits

This year the support hub have enjoyed a range of different visits. It has been a delight to provide these opportunities for students and to see them develop their learning and experiences in a range of different places:

- People's Community Garden Bee Keeping Trip
- Whitton Church Lane Allotments
- St Mary's Church, Akenham
- Colchester Zoological Society, Wildlife Forensics Experience
- Geek Retreat Ipswich, Museums on the Move

We look forward to more next year!





## Enrichment Day

We had the delight of enjoying a wide range of activities both in and out of school during Enrichment Day. Whilst we were too busy to capture much in the way of photographs, here's a snippet about our visit to Pleasurewood Hills from Ms McMurtry:

*It was joyous to take a wonderful group of 85 students to Pleasurewood Hills during our recent enrichment day. Our day involved lots of rides, many of them were enjoyed multiple times!*

*We also explored the park, and had lots of fun racing down slides, bumping into each other on the dodgems and being very brave on the rollercoasters.*

*We all had a lovely lunchtime together, and some of us got cooled off by a trip on the log flume.*

*All students were amazingly behaved, and it was a pleasure to take such a wonderful group on a brilliant trip!*

## Ypres Visit

A brilliant visit – despite the long day and heat! We are so proud to be able to take students on this visit to the First World War battlefields and give an enormous thank you to the History Department and other staff in planning and joining students on the visit. A few photographs below.



## Noughts and Crosses

Students and staff worked exceptionally hard in putting on our first school production for several years. It was a delight to welcome so many members of the community in to enjoy the performance and we are very grateful to the company for putting on a second show in school for students in Year 8, who have been studying the text in English.



## Cultural Diversity Day

We didn't manage to capture many photographs of our cultural diversity day. However it was fabulous to see so many students taking part. Our lessons for the day took a culture twist as students explored a range of cultures and diversity issues through the curriculum. At break students shared some examples of cultural cuisine – thank you to all parents and students for supplying this. A very special mention goes to Tobias' mum who kindly prepared and provided an amazing selection of Caribbean food which students and staff enjoyed sampling. As seen below!



## Duke of Edinburgh

We have had a wonderful year of students working hard on their Duke of Edinburgh awards. In September this year 16 of our Year 10s completed their Bronze expedition and 4 of them also completed the expeditions for their Silver Award. We have also started the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh with 30 of our Year 9 students who completed their practice expedition in May and are looking forward to completing their assessed expedition in September. Our Year 9s this year have worked very hard in supporting the Duke of Edinburgh, getting involved in raising money to support the programme. We have had two fundraising events this term; sponge the teacher on sports day and a quiz on the 17<sup>th</sup> July, where the students wrote and delivered the quiz questions, baked cakes and ran a raffle. It was a wonderful evening! In total they have helped to raise £400 to support the Duke of Edinburgh programme at school.

