



Exams Are Back!

After two years of cancelled GCSEs due to Covid-19, it has been strangely satisfying to return to the familiarity of the exam season, without doubt the main focus of our year's work. Year 11 students may not share my perspective, but I suppose that depends on how well they feel they have prepared themselves for the rigours of the assessment period. It certainly is more demanding than in years gone by, with 3 papers in some subjects, which elongates the window and requires additional resilience.

On the whole, I have been impressed with the manner in which our young people have coped with the associated pressure, and they have supported each other admirably. Our hard-working staff have been offering breakfast sessions, Period 4 boosters and afternoon revision classes for the next day's exams, all part of an intensive support programme devised and overseen by Mr Birley. I am confident that these extra inputs will have a positive impact in the final reckoning in August. I should like to wish Year 11 well for the exams that remain and look forward to celebrating their 5 years with us at Leavers' Assembly on Friday 24th June.

As other elements of school life return to normality, it was even more pleasing to see the Battlefields Trip to Belgium take place last Friday. The 85 Year 10 students who took part should have made the visit in Year 8, but Covid intervened, and they have had to wait patiently for this opportunity. We were so delighted that the travel company retained our booking throughout this lengthy period and the students were able, finally, to appreciate a very moving and educational experience. Let's hope that this signals the resumption of all similar activities as we move forward.

Best wishes for the remainder of summer term,

Mr Lawn (Headteacher)

Diary Dates



June 2022

14th June - Year 10 Girls, Women in Engineering & Construction event
14th June - Multi-Schools Council
15th June - District Athletics
17th June - Year 10 Gridserve Electric Forecourt trip (Group 1)
20th-24th June - Year 9 Exam Week
20th June - Year 8 HPV1 vaccinations
21st June - Year 10 Geography Field Trip to Walton-on-the-Naze
23rd June - Awards Evening (7pm)
24th June - Year 10/11 Catch up vaccinations
24th June - P3/P4 Year 11 Leavers' Assembly
27th-29th June - Year 5 Taster Days
30th June - Year 6 Induction Day
30th June - Year 6 Parents' Meeting (7pm)

July 2022

1st July - Year 6 Induction Day
1st July - School Prom at Stisted Golf Club
7th July - Year 9 University of Essex Campus visit
8th July - Sports Day
12th July - Year 10 Gridserve Electric Forecourt trip (Group 2)
14th July - Skills Day
18th-21st July - Celebration Assemblies
22nd July-31st August - Summer Holiday
24th July - World Challenge Team 1 depart for Morocco
29th July - World Challenge Team 2 depart for Morocco

August 2022

25th August – Exam Results Day

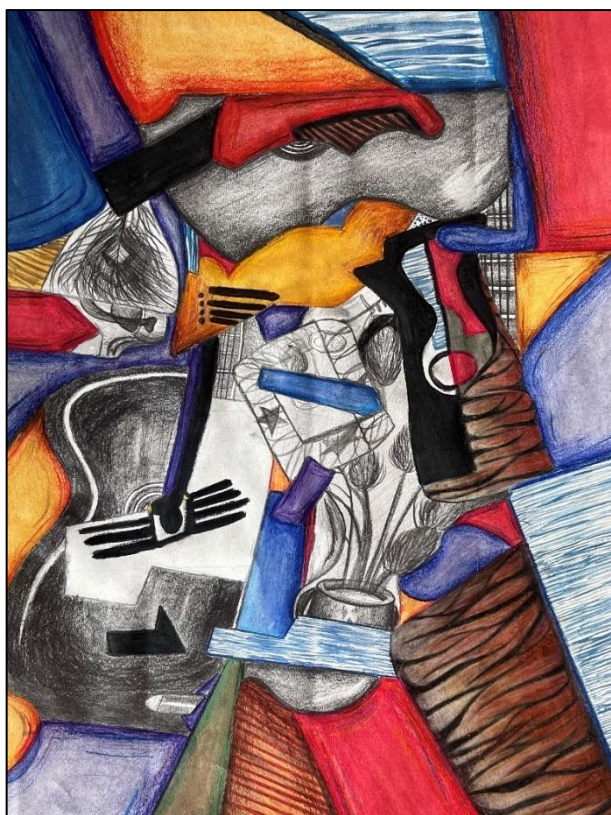
September 2022

1st & 2nd September – Inset (Non-Pupil) Days
5th September – Students return to school

Artist of the Month

Year 9 student **Charlie Bell** has been awarded Artist of the Month Award for **March**. Charlie is highly skilled at drawing and has produced some fantastic work in both printmaking and ceramics. He has continued to produce some excellent work in Art throughout the carousel using a variety of media and artistic techniques. Well done, Charlie!

Artist of the Month for **April** is **Ceren Nanacak** in Year 11. Ceren is an amazingly hard-working student, who has been coming in at lunchtimes and after school nearly every day to refine and improve her course work. She has created an incredible final piece (below). Well done, Ceren!



Chef of the Month

The Chef of the Month award for **April** was presented to **Isabelle Cobbold** in Year 10. Isabelle won for the work she did for her practical exam. She was well organised, applied health and safety rules throughout and showed a range of complex skills. Isabelle created a delicious lasagne, having made her own fresh pasta, meat sauce and cheese sauce, as well as some cupcakes that allowed her to demonstrate the creaming method and piping skills. Her presentation was excellent. Well done Isabelle!



School Governor position

Alec Hunter Academy has an opening for a volunteer to join the Local Governing Body. We are specifically looking for skilled professionals with strong experience in managing finances and accountancy. One of our openings is specifically for a Parent Governor, who needs to be a parent, carer or grandparent of a child attending the school. Governors are responsible for overseeing the management side of a school: strategy, policy, budgeting, and staffing. They enable their school to run as effectively as possible, working alongside senior leaders and supporting teachers to provide excellent education to children. Being a school governor is a commitment to attending governing body meetings as well as being involved in the school community, acting as critical friends to the headteacher and senior leaders. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact Mrs Marion Myers, Clerk to Governors, by email at MMyers@alechunter.com

Student Absence: Please remember to report any student absence via:
Tel: 01376 559356 / **Text:** 07598 393348 /
Email: jjackson@alechunter.com.

Headteacher's Surgery: Mr Lawn will be available from 3:30-4:30pm every Thursday to meet with parents and discuss any issues they may wish to raise. No appointment is required, as parents will be seen in the order they arrive, but if you wish to book a specific time, please contact the school office.

Martial Arts competition

On Friday 29th April, three of our students took part in the Tang Soo Do Karate World Championships competition in Belfast. **Alfie Potter** achieved Bronze in his Weapons Form, **Ethan Scherer** achieved a Gold in his Traditional Forms and **Annabelle Summers** achieved a Gold in Traditional Forms, Gold in Weapons and a Silver in her Sparring. All three students displayed great teamwork at the tournament and really enjoyed the whole day. Well done to all of you!



Report by Annabelle Summers 9U:

Over the May Bank holiday, I went with the England squad from Yong Gi Do Martial Arts Organisation to Belfast in Northern Ireland to compete in the Karate World Championships. Our team had an amazing time. I entered in traditional forms, weapons and sparring. After a bit of waiting, I got my chance to make myself a World Champion. My forms and weapons were first and, despite drawing with my teammate, I won gold in both. About 10 minutes later I had to fight in a 14–16-year-old category. This was one of the hardest things I had to do, however I won a silver medal. It was a fantastic event and I wanted to also congratulate my teammates Alfie Potter and Ethan Scherer.

Free Period Products in School

Free sanitary products from the Department of Education are available to any student who needs them. A selection of products are available at all times from the Medical Department, Student Hatch, Pastoral Offices or from tutors.



Careers Insight Day

On Friday 20th May, some Year 9 students attended a Careers Insight Day arranged by Essex County Council's Environment and Climate Teams. The event took place at Cressing Temple Barns and students attended interactive workshops on the following topics:

- How we can reduce our carbon footprint
- The importance of climate action
- What happens to our waste, including recycling
- What is circular economy
- Flooding and flood risk, including natural flood management
- Green Infrastructure
- Career pathways into Environment and Climate
- CV advice, including how to make your CV standout from the crowd

Each session allowed students to ask questions as well as discuss career pathways.



'The Bruise You Can't See'

On Thursday 31st March, Year 10 were visited by TIC Box Productions who performed an interactive theatre production of their play 'The Bruise You Can't See'.

The play, written specifically for young people, highlights the early warning signs of coercive behaviour. The play is an interactive experience where students can take charge of the characters to explore what to do if they, or someone they knew, found themselves in an abusive or controlling relationship.



United in Diversity Event

On Tuesday 24th May, members of the School Council attended a United in Diversity Event at Braxted Park. The event was attended by over 30 schools from Primary, Secondary and Special Educational settings. There were inspirational speeches from Essex children about their experiences and overcoming adversity as well as engaging activities such as careers mapping, t shirt printing, therapy dogs, archery, boccia and boxing in which students were able to participate. Our students were perfect ambassadors for the school community and really enjoyed the experience.

Our School Council: **Nathan Clarke and Olivia Priestland (Year 7), Timothy Garnett and Esmee Reeve (Year 8), Charley Marriott and Katie Nyemba (Year 9) and Ethan Scherer and Bree Nelson (Year 10).**

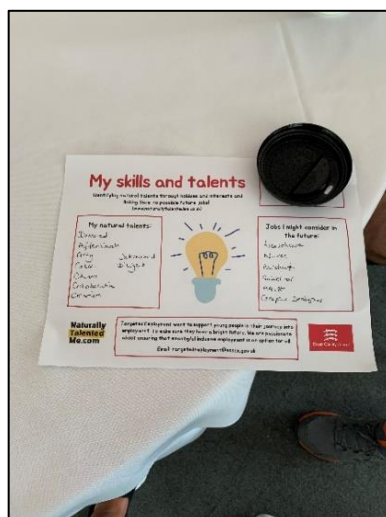


"It was so inspiring to hear how young people cope with difficulties"

"It was fun socialising and trying new activities with other schools"

"It gave me a different perspective and a different experience"

Feedback from the students who attended the 'United in Diversity' Event.

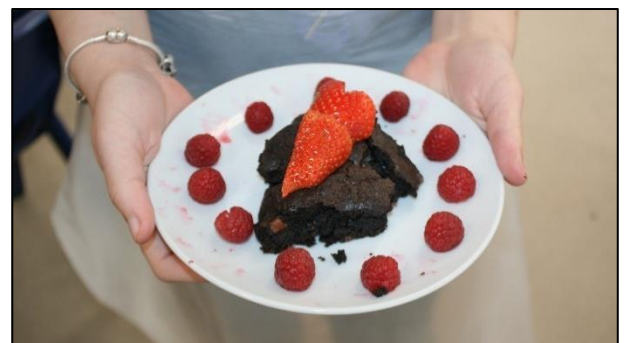


Ready, Steady, COOK!

On 27th and 29th April, students from Year 10 Hospitality and Catering and Year 10 Food Preparation & Nutrition took place in a 'Ready, Steady, Cook' style competition hosted by the Royal Navy. Teams were asked to cook two dishes with limited ingredients against the clock. The dishes were judged by Miss Birrell and Miss Woolnough, along with Gabriele and Matt from the Royal Navy. They really produced some amazing dishes, as these pictures show:



Bryony Bell, Bethany Folley and Megan Livermore were the winning team from Day 1.



Mitchel Garrod, Mia Costall, Skye Claydon and George Hayhow were the winning group from Day 2.

Skills Day

29th March saw the return of Skills Days after a Covid-enforced break, with each year group being involved in exciting activities in place of the normal timetable for the day.

Year 7 students took part in various classes based around Languages. Activities included learning the words to a song in German, building the Brandenburg Gate out of newspaper in Technology, tasting German dishes and learning about Franz Marc, a German painter, in Art.

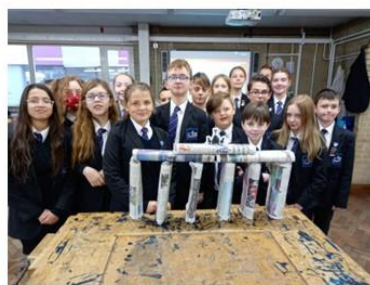
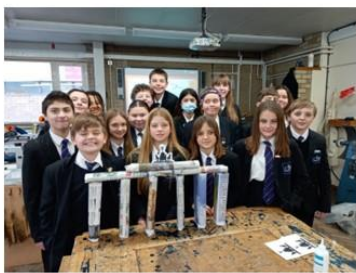
Year 7 – Languages Cafe

Singing in German

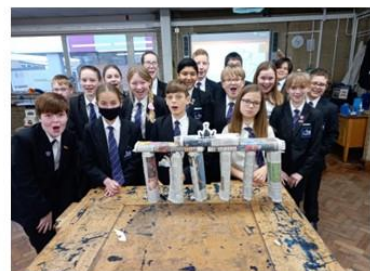
Computer Science

German food tasting

Art: Franz Marc



Building the Brandenburg Gate in Technology



Year 8 students experienced a health & lifestyle 'Divergence Day', learning about and participating in alternative sports. Students took part in the following classes:

- **Street Dance** - students learned a dance from the London 2012 Olympics Opening Ceremony.
- **Kabaddi** - students learned how to play this ancient Indian team game where opposing teams attempt to gain points by sending a team member into the opposition's half who must touch one or more members of the opposition to score.
- **Sepak Takraw** - students had the opportunity to participate in kick tennis from South-East Asia.
- **Epic Theatre** - students linked different performance styles into one fluent performance. They also created fictional characters in characterisation classes.
- **Foot Golf** - this activity helped develop accuracy and power.
- **Flag Football** - a safer version of American Football to help develop tactical knowledge.
- **STOMP** - students created energetic percussion pieces using their own hands and feet alongside a drum, focusing on producing upbeat rhythms.



Year 8 – 'Divergence' (Health & Lifestyle)



Year 9 students took part in the National Careers Programme hosted by the Inspirational Learning Group. The National Careers Challenge is the UK's largest careers and enterprise competition and provides students with a real-life business challenge set by some actual businesses. Students were encouraged to work as part of a team and had the chance to compete, communicate, problem-solve and think creatively to ensure they met the brief set by the client.



The winners of the Year 9 National Careers Programme were Abbigail Warden, Ruby Arnold, Poppy Keeble, Ava Bell, Hollie Laverty and Harmony West.

Year 10 students were involved in mock job interviews with local employers. They worked hard on their CVs and shared these with the local businesses who 'interviewed' them. Huge thanks to the following local businesses for supporting the event: **Anderson, Braintree Town Community Iron, Department for Work & Pensions, HSBC Braintree, Make Happen, McDonalds Braintree, Colchester Institute, Tamdown, Directions, Nexus, Braintree District Council, London Stansted Airport, and Kate Nokes Youth Coaching.**



Year 11 students took part in exam preparation and revision workshops. The Science department organised an Escape Room-themed revision session with students identifying and solving clues linked to key science topics and themes. The Maths department took students through past exam papers to help them improve on key areas that are likely to come up in their GCSE exam.



Alec Hunter Academy Extra Curricular Clubs and Activities

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BEFORE SCHOOL 8am – 8-30am	Homework club – A2	Homework club – A2	Homework club – A2	Homework club – A2	Homework club – A2
LUNCHTIME 1.10pm – 1.50pm	iMedia Drop in Y11 Autumn term. Y10 Spr/Sum E7 DBU / OLA	Y7 & Y8 Coding Club E7 DBU / OLA	Y7 & Y8 Drama Club – G2 - THO	Y7 & Y8 Guitar Club – G3 - JDA	Spitting Bars – G3 - JDA
	Piano skills – G3 - JDA	Climate Club C4 - CFE	KS4 Art Club – L2 DDK	Chess Club – B5 - EDE	Library – CPI - Reading Only
	Library - CPI	Library - CPI	Library – CPI - Reading Only	Library - CPI	
	MFL – Retrieval Practice – L7 – NST / IPE	Board Games – B1 – PBI		RAAP Group – A4 – EPE Good to be me club –EPE	
AFTERSCHOOL 3.10pm – 4.10pm	Gardening Club Y10 – Memorial Garden – VPO / MAR / CGI	Homework Club - Library	2 nd Wed of the Month - Cookery Club (2Hours) D3 CBI	School voices – G3 - JDA	Homework Club - Library
	Y9 & Y10 Guitar group – G3 – JDA		School Band (Invite only) – G3 - JDA	Athletics Club – Track – SJO / NGI	Cricket - NGI
	Y9 & Y10 Drama Group – G2 THO		The Drama play – G2 - THO	Tennis Club - ABO	
	Rounders Club – ADE / RJO		Athletics Club – Field – GED, ABO, ADE, RJO, SJO	Homework Club - Library	
	KS3 Art Club – CRI – L1		Homework Club - Library	Gardening Club Y7 – Memorial Garden – CGI / CJO / THO	
	Homework Club - Library		Y7 Science Club – F4 - SCH		
	Gardening Club - Y8 Week A only –CGI / CJO / THO		STEM Club– D9 JTO		
	Warhammer Club C7 - CSC		Table Tennis – Gym - CMO		



PE SUMMER CLUBS



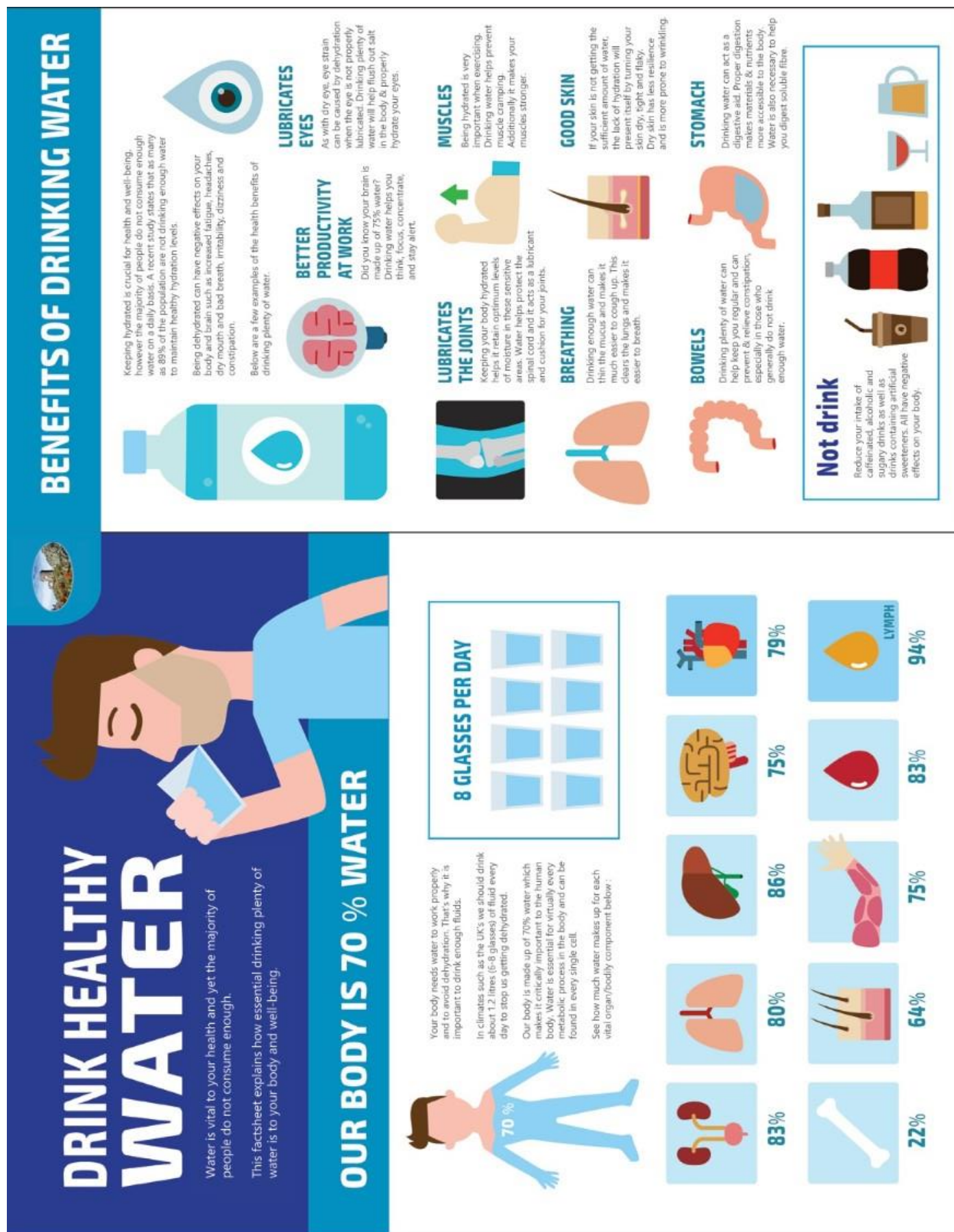
Monday - Rounders
Wednesday - Athletics
(Track & Field)
Thursday - Tennis &
Athletics (Track)



**All after school clubs run from
3.10pm – 4.10pm**



Drinking water throughout the day is vital to our health and well-being and not drinking enough can have negative effects on our body and brain, such as increased fatigue and headaches. As the weather warms up, please ensure all students have a water bottle with them at school. There are water stations outside G-block for these to be refilled when required.



THINKING ABOUT TRAINING TO BECOME A TEACHER?

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Essex



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E: admin@midsexteachertraining.com
W: www.midsexteachertraining.com

LINE MANAGEMENT FROM SEPTEMBER 2021

Please find below our line management arrangements for students. The first point of contact for enquiries should be your child's tutor and then their Student Support Leader or Head of Year depending on the nature of your query.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Attendance / Wellbeing / Behaviour /Safeguarding				
Form Tutor				
Miss Biggs Student Support Leader	Mrs Johnson Student Support Leader	Mr Cleevely Student Support Leader	Mrs Porter Student Support Leader	Mr Cleevely (11H/11R) Mrs Porter (11U/11T) Mrs Johnson (11N/11E) Student Support Leaders
Mr Booth (Assistant Headteacher) - Designated Safeguarding & Mental Health Lead Mrs Watson (Assistant Headteacher) - Deputy Safeguarding Lead				
Learning / Behaviour / Academic Progress / Standards				
Class Teacher				
Head of Curriculum Area *(see below)				
Miss Jones Head of Year	Mr Holland Head of Year	Mr Moreno Head of Year	Mr Lee Head of Year	Mr Spooner Head of Year
Mr Fox (Associate Deputy Headteacher)/ Mr Doolan (Associate Assistant Headteacher) Behaviour & Progress	Mrs Watson (Assistant Headteacher) Behaviour & Progress		Mr Birley (Deputy Headteacher) Behaviour & Progress	
Mrs Gillett			SENCO	
Mrs Jackson / Mrs Brydges			Attendance Officers	

*** Should you have a subject-related query, for example, regarding homework etc., the first point of contact should be the class teacher. Listed below are the Heads of each Curriculum Area, along with the member of the Leadership Group responsible for each Curriculum Area, to help parents in knowing who to approach for assistance.**

	Head of Subject/Curriculum Area	Senior Leader
English	Mrs C Fennelly	Mr Doolan
Mathematics	Mrs Baird	Mrs Watson
Science	Mr Fernandez	Mr Lawn
Geography	Mr Birch	Mr Doolan
History	Miss Depper	Ms Woolnough
RPE	Mrs McEvoy	Mr Doolan
Technology/Art/Child Development	Mr Todd	Ms Woolnough
Computer Science/ICT	Mr Butler	Mr Jones
French/German/Spanish	Mrs Steward	Ms Woolnough
PE/Drama/Music	Mr Edwards	Ms Woolnough
Special Educational Needs	Mrs Gillett	Mr Birley
Learning for Life	Mrs Hewes	Mr Booth
Vocational Education/Business Studies	Mr Jones	Mr Fox

Academic Year 2021-2022

September 2021							October 2021							November 2021							December 2021						
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January 2022							February 2022							March 2022							April 2022						
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May 2022							June 2022							July 2022							August 2022						
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= Schooldays / Weekends

= Bank Holidays

= School Holidays

= Non Pupil (INSET) Days
(There is one further date to be confirmed)

Autumn Term:	Wednesday 1 September 2021 – Friday 17 December 2021 <i>Half Term 25 October – 29 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term:	Tuesday 4 January 2022 – Friday 1 April 2022 <i>Half Term 14 February – 18 February</i>	59 days
Summer Term:	Tuesday 19 April 2022 – Friday 22 July 2022 <i>Half Term 30 May – 3 June, and Bank Holidays, 2 May, 2 and 3 June</i>	62 days
		<u>194 days</u>

Please note: The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies. You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.

Academic Year 2022-2023

September 2022							October 2022							November 2022							December 2022						
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January 2023							February 2023							March 2023							April 2023						
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May 2023							June 2023							July 2023							August 2023						
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														31													

= Schooldays / Weekends

= Bank Holidays

= School Holidays

= Non Pupil (INSET) Days
(There is one further date to be confirmed)

Autumn Term:	Thursday 1 September 2022 – Monday 19 December 2022 Half Term 24 October – 28 October	73 days
Spring Term:	Wednesday 4 January 2023 – Friday 31 March 2023 Half Term 13 February – 17 February	58 days
Summer Term:	Tuesday 17 April 2023 – Friday 21 July 2023 Half Term 29 May – 2 June, and May Bank Holiday, 1 May	64 days
		<u>195 days</u>

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