

NotleyNews

Issue 003

Dec 2022



School Trips

Sporting Roundup

Christmas Activities

House Competitions

...and much, much more

Notley's On The Case

Solving your next move at Open Morning 2022

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form



Art Competition



Do you want to make a mark on our community? Something that you can say you did?

Do you love art?



We need all future Artists and Sports enthusiasts!

Black Notley Parish have asked for members of our school to design and paint the new football shelter, being built at Black Notley Parish football fields.

This stand will be there for generations to come, and will celebrate Notley, our school and our community.

The parish work closely with the Essex Wild life Trust

Themes – sports, football, woodland, wild life



Do you want to be a part of commemorating the new King?

Black Notley Parish are planting a row of Cherry trees for the coronation in May.

Create a 3D sculpture idea to celebrate the King's coronation.

Take part in one or both competitions! Show us what you're capable of creating.

Deadline – 12th January 2023

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HeadteacherUpdate

It has been a busy Autumn Term. From our coffee mornings, welcome information evenings, open day, year 11 internal examinations, talks from visiting speakers and a return to trips abroad such as our Year 9 Battlefields trip to Ypres as well in country trips such as the careers' fair, STEM trip, Babylab and rewards trips.

In the build up to Christmas we have had many festive activities taking place both inside and outside of school. The Christmas shoebox appeal, enterprise fair, Christmas jumper day, act of kindness Christmas calendar challenge, the KS4 and KS5 trip to Winter Wonderland, the Year 7 Christmas disco and the writing of Christmas cards by students to be delivered to care homes in the district.

As usual at this time of year we have to say goodbye to the following staff who are moving to new posts. I would like to take the opportunity to say thank you and goodbye to the colleagues who are leaving us and have been a part of our school community. On behalf of the wider community, I thank each of them for all they have contributed to the school over the past years and the difference they have made to so many students' education.

We say goodbye to:

Mr Taylor

Mr Ellis

Mrs Clarke

Mr Potter

Mr Quoi

We also welcome the following:

Mrs Howells - Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Bird - Raising achievement and Progress leader for English

Mr Noone - Head of Faculty for Science

Mrs Forster is returning to teach Maths and Dr Lethbridge is returning to teach Science.

In the New Year, work will start on constructing the new classrooms. In collaboration with Braintree basketball club, Braintree district council and other charities, the basketball facilities at Notley will be upgraded. This will include remarking of the Sports Hall floor to conform to national standard requirements, upgrading of the main basketball goals and replacement of basketball rings. This will allow National League games to be hosted at the school and we are delighted that the development of this partnership will allow Notley High school to become the home of 'The Blue Devils' and an integral part of the Community basketball hub in Braintree. We are hoping that this work can commence during February half-term.

Recent visitors to the school will have noticed the introduction of a new electronic sign-in system. After Christmas we will have the full system operational for both staff and students who need to sign in or out during the school day. Two inventory systems will be positioned in the main school reception and student reception, with one in the sixth form for students in Years 12 and 13.

After the Christmas holidays we will be having for the first time our full Exams Week where everyone in the school will be sitting tests or exams apart from Year 11. Year 11 will have a bespoke week which will include sessions of revision skills and study skills, masterclasses in each subject and presentations and information on careers and career pathways.

The aim of this strategy is to ensure that all students know how to revise and have practiced timed tests and papers so that the anxiety of exams and exam preparation diminishes. This is all the more important with the cancellation of exams and tests during the pandemic.

All curriculum journeys are now in place and are being uploaded to the website. You can find these all on our school website for each subject in the Curriculum area, under Learning Journeys.

Have a wonderful Christmas filled with memories with your families and loved ones and see you on January the 5th for a normal school day.

Headteacher Commendations

Year 7

Gabriel B has worked incredibly hard this term. He has settled into Notley well and has become what we expect from a Notley student. He has received many house points especially for acts of kindness and positive behaviour. He completes all of his homework

and helps out in class. Feedback from Gabriel's teachers has shown that he is kind, caring and incredibly hard working. Staff say that he is a pleasure to have in their class.

Year 8

Duncan MacD has consistently shown amazing resilience and bravery in the way that he embraces school life in spite of this condition, which is often extremely painful and debilitating. He never moans or complains, he sits out PE when he has to and sits at the front in assembly every week. He is always smiling and has not had a single C system this year. He is helpful in form and his attendance, including authorised absences due to hospital visits and recovery, is 100%. Outside of school he does swimming therapy every

week which helps with his movement of his hips and legs. The recent snow has made things even more challenging, but he hasn't missed a day, despite having a couple of falls earlier in the week. He even walks his dog to help his parents and he does his share of chores around the house to help his parents. He manages all of this with a smile on his face and excellent behaviour in school. He is an amazing role model for others, embracing life with resilience and determination.

Year 9

Rebecca W has been selected this term for our Headteachers commendation. When it comes to taking on opportunities, Rebecca has shown that she is not afraid to take on a challenge. From completing Library and House challenges, including coming second in the recent MFL cake challenge, to joining the cast of Matilda; Rebecca engages herself with school life and it is lovely to see her confidence and enthusiasm further encouraging students within our tutor group to take on new roles. As form captain and

a prefect, Rebecca has been able to demonstrate her positive attitude and leadership skills, including being a fantastic role model to others. She continuously offers her support to her peers, as seen through Rebecca supporting the younger years as a reading buddy. Outside of school, Rebecca is a Girl Guide, fully involving herself in the group activities such as the recent Remembrance Parade in Braintree. Rebecca's teachers report that she is kind, conscientious and supportive of her fellow classmates.

Year 10

Acacia H has been awarded this term's head teacher commendation due to her outstanding attitude towards her learning in school, as well as her willingness to volunteer in the local community. At school, Acacia consistently applies herself to the best of her abilities, completing all work to an exceptionally high standard. She is always willing to challenge herself and does so with a smile on her face. Her teachers are delighted that she has been selected for this award as she is a pleasure to teach and her commitment to her studies

sets a positive example to those around her. As part of wider school life she has been a member of the student council, and she is currently a reading buddy whereby she supports a Year 8 student with their reading. Outside of school Acacia volunteers weekly at her local Park Run. She has taken on several roles including being the volunteer co-ordinator at the junior Park Run event. In recognition of this, she won the 2022 Young Person inspirational Role Model Award at Braintree Council's Volunteer Award.

Year 11

My Head Teacher commendation award goes to Finnen Gooding for his excellent behaviour and attitude in school as well as volunteering and supporting his local orienteering group, Essex stragglers.

Finnan competes at supports the running of Orienteering events across the country and is a very talented young athlete as well.

Year7

Well, the first term at Notley for our Year 7's has come to an end and it has passed so quickly! Students have come so far, from being worried on the first few days to now moving around the school with confidence and lots of new friends.

It has been a busy term with students getting involved with lots going on around the school. To end the term, we had our Year 7 disco – it was fantastic to see so many of you dancing the night away for a well earned reward for your hard work, attendance and behaviour. I asked tutor groups to vote for the best dancing teacher and the votes were as follows Miss Marboeuf, Miss Green, Mr Buttle and Mrs Cosens! DJ Mike had emailed in 'Thank you for having me DJ at the school last evening, it was an absolute pleasure and great to play to such lovely children, thank you' as your RSL receiving feedback like this makes me incredibly proud.

Awards

Well-done to 7.1 for the tutor group with the highest attendance. Congratulations to Jamie E in 7.3 for having the most house points in the entire year group!

House point totals so far:

7.1	1,328	7.2	4,524	7.3	4,139
7.4	1,692	7.5	1,945	7.6	1,677
7.7	1,637	7.8	1,451		

Congratulations to 7.2 who are in the lead! There is still time for the other tutor groups to gain more house points and win next half term – its all to play for!

So many of you have done yourselves, families, tutors and the school proud, it has been a rather difficult job for you tutors to select a student of the term. However, the star students for this term are:

7.1 Freddie K	7.2 Sophie B	7.3 Evie-Mai W
7.4 Aaron P	7.5 Charlotte H	7.6 Lucy P
7.7 Harry G	7.8 Alfie J	



Mrs A Spencer-Damps, Year 7 Raising Standards Leader

Half Term Challenge

Create a Christmas ornament or bake something yummy for those around you to enjoy! Send your pictures in to Mrs Spencer-Damps!

Thank you all for your support over during the final week of term, the weather conditions certainly made things a challenge at times.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy 2023. I hope that you all have a restful break over the Christmas holidays and take time to rest and do the things that you enjoy.

Year8

We did it! First term in Year 8 completed! And what a term it has been with lots of learning, lots of drama and lots of exciting things taking place!

The term started with lots of curious and worried faces as students pondered what the first term of Year 8 would have in store for them. With some students changing tutor group after only one year in school and some students experiencing new tutors and new teachers...and how can we forget...a new RSL! Fast forward to the now and it is amazing to see how settled Year 8 are and how the students are growing in confidence almost as if they are beginning to find their place in school and where they belong. Year 8 can be a difficult year to navigate for some as begin to realise they are no longer the youngest and they no longer have the same leeway they were given in Year 7, but they are far from sitting their GCSEs and so can feel that there is less pressure on them in Year 8 than in other years.

It has been hard to keep up with everything that has happened this term as there has been lots going on! Earlier in the term many students were buddies to Year 7s helping them to settle into life at secondary school. We then had many year 8 students who represented our school on the Open Day, with some making excellent speeches for prospective parents. We were victorious in the Faraday science challenge, which is a fantastic achievement overcoming other local schools to win on the day. Students have been fantastic at supporting charity events such as 'Kilometres for Pounds', 'Can You Stomach It' and Christmas Jumper day raising money for lots of good causes. In terms of extracurricular achievements, we had a number of students representing their house in Interhouse dodgeball, and we also had the winner for International Languages Day cake competition. In addition to this we have also experienced success for the boys and girls football teams with the boys winning some matches and the girls reaching the quarter finals of the Essex cup. Here's hoping our girls can replicate that of the England Lionesses and bring the cup home!

I was delighted to be able to invite so many Year 8s to the Jump Street reward trip as a reward for meeting the Reward Trip Criteria which we shared with you earlier this year. In the end we were able to invite over 200 students and the take up for this trip was overwhelming with over 100 students in



Mr H Morbin, Year 8 Raising Standards Leader

attendance. The trip was a wonderful opportunity for students to unwind and have fun with their year group after so much effort and hard work put in this term. One year 8 student said, "this was the best trip ever. I am so tired now!". This comment, along with the many happy faces on the night, made it all worthwhile for the ten members of staff who gave up their time out of school hours to attend and enable this trip to happen.

It is with regret that I must inform you that Mr Quoi will be leaving us at Christmas as he moves back to his hometown of Bristol to pursue a job that he is really excited for. We are really sad to see him leave as he has been a fantastic tutor to 8.5, a great teacher of PE and PDT and an excellent role model to our students at Notley. He will be greatly missed but I am confident that Miss Bird who will be replacing him as tutor of 8.5 will do a fantastic job in seeing the students through the rest of their journey at Notley High School and I know she is excited to get to know all of her tutees. I hope you will join me in welcoming Miss Bird and wishing Mr Quoi all the luck in his new job.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year ahead for 2023. Have a wonderful break!

Year9

As this term draws to a close, I'm sure the students are all very much looking forward to some time off and spending time with their family and friends, I know the staff certainly are.

For me, this has felt like the most 'normal' term since before Covid times. We have been able to run trips, even taken students abroad, all clubs running without disturbances, and it has been really lovely!

I thoroughly enjoyed accompanying the students and the History team on the Battlefields Trip. The students behaved immaculately, and I was proud to say that they were part of Notley High School. The icing on the cake after a lovely but long day was the passport control officer saying to me as I was the last one checked, 'what absolutely lovely and polite students you have, I wish they were all like that!'

A huge well done to all those who have won star student throughout this half term. I really do enjoy all the reasons that you are nominated. So many are for students being kind and thoughtful towards others as well as academic achievements and achievements outside school. Please see below for a list of those who have been nominated.

9.1 LFO	Spencer H	Kamilija R	Olivia A	Charlie D
9.2 ALE	Joshua M	Alice P	Sophie N	Euan C
9.3 MMC	Luke P	Olivia K	Jack A	Imogen M
9.4 EDI	Lilly C	Aidan C	Amelie L	Ruby H-M
9.5 ADO	James K	Manny C	Felicity A	Daisy H
9.6 PEL	Lyla M	Evie N	Oliver B-D	Maddie R
9.7 MPO	Kaitlynn P	Charlie O	Kadie R	Daniel K
9.8 RPA	Amelia H	Willow D	Cecile B	Matthew W
9.9 NHI	Hayden D	Sophie B	Mia J	Rosie S



Miss K Murdoch, Year 9 Raising Standards Leader

Tutors have also nominated an overall star student for the whole term. A huge well done to all those listed below and the reasons for these nominations.

9.1 Tiffany B - Being fully involved in all school life so enthusiastically.

9.2 Freya W - Always having perfect uniform and immersing yourself in school life.

9.3 Olivia K - Involving yourself in the full school life and the opportunities available. An excellent Notley student.

9.4 Lilly C - Increasing your confidence in so many ways throughout the term.

9.5 Felicity A - Continuing to work hard and focus no matter what comes your way.

9.6 Khairah A - Immersing yourself in school life, representing the form and achieving outstanding academic and behavioural records this year.

9.7 Alex M - Always being so helpful and respectful.

9.8 Annalese P - Consistent excellent behaviour and contributing amazingly well in tutor activities. Being a wonderful student and one I am proud to have her in my tutor group.

9.9 Kenzie F - Always showing kindness to others and always offering to help others.

I'd like to give a special mention to two students in particular.

Phoebe R has been working extremely hard and has been unbelievably committed to football. She regularly misses out on trips and activities because of her commitment to training and games. Phoebe trains with Ipswich Town Elite Player Development Centre and has been hand picked out of 50 girls to represent the U14's Elite team against the U14's Advanced Team at Needham Market Football Club. This is the second time in 3 months she has been picked to play for Ipswich Town. Well done Phoebe and good luck!

Goodbye Mr Ellis

We do have a sad goodbye to make. Mr Ellis, form tutor for 9.6 is sadly leaving us to go onto pastures new. He has a new job closer to home so that he can spend more time with his young family. I'm sure you will all agree that Mr Ellis is an outstanding form tutor and English teacher, and we will all miss him. We made sure we had a team 9.6 photo before he left, including a fun one!

Mr Ellis will be replaced by a member of staff that many of the students will remember, Mrs Forster. Mrs Forster is coming back to join Notley High Maths Department, something we are all really pleased to hear. She will I am sure maintain Mr Ellis's high expectations of 9.6.

We have a very busy term coming up starting with our rescheduled Jump Street Trip on 9th Jan and then with the options process beginning. Some key dates for you all are Parents Evening on Thursday 9th February and following this, the Options Evening on Thursday 2nd March. There will be lots of support for both students and parents as we start this process to ensure everyone makes well informed decisions at such an important time.

Finally, I'll leave you with a picture of our very festive Mrs Potgieter, 9.7 tutor, who really got in the Christmas spirit on Christmas Jumper day! I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and safe New Year. I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Thursday 5th January 2023.



Year10

It has been another busy half term for Year 10, and we are now well underway with our GCSE courses. I am delighted to see the continued positive feedback from staff around our student's attitude to learning. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Year 10 students and their families a restful break over Christmas.

Highlights

Year 10 students took part in Mock Interviews, whereby they were required to write a letter of application for their "dream job" and then take part in an online interview. We are very proud of how well students took to this challenge and we had some fantastic feedback from the interviewers. Well done everyone!

Child Development students went on a trip to Essex University's "Baby Lab" where they took part in activities to embed their learning of the GCSE course.

Oliver R. was selected out of hundreds of boys to play for Essex County Under 15s football team. This is a fantastic achievement, well done, Oliver!

Connie F. has been selected to play for the Under 15s England ice hockey team. This is a fantastic achievement, and we are all very proud of you.

Year 10 football successes continue with 6 students representing North West Essex and beating Waltham Forest 4-1. Well done, boys!

Fifteen Year 10 students are currently Reading Buddies for several Year 8 students during tutor time. We are very impressed at the kind and responsible way in which these students have conducted themselves in supporting the younger students with their reading.

Several Year 10 students have been busy rehearsing for the Performing Arts Christmas showcase. These students have given up their lunchtimes to rehearse and I cannot wait to hear and see the final performances. Well done to: Abigail, Lewis and Nick in the school band; Rhiannon, Georgia and Alexandra in the choir; and Jess and Sophie who are dancing.

On 6th December many of our Year 10 students travelled to London by coach to enjoy an evening at Winter Wonderland for this term's rewards trip. Students had a brilliant time on the rides, enjoying the amazing lights and stalls and eating lots of food!



Mrs R Swann, Year 10 Raising Standards Leader

Student of the Term

Tutors have nominated the following students for student of the term. Congratulations!

10.1 Kai L. - For perseverance, resilience, and being a kind presence in tutor every single day.

10.2 Stevie-Ray F. - For a positive start to KS4 and working well in all her lessons. Keep up the good work!

10.3 Imogen S. - For always being on-time to tutor time, participating actively during the sessions and for being a positive influence on students around her.

10.4 Ethan C. - For a consistently outstanding attitude towards his learning and going the extra mile in all that he does.

10.5 Connie F. - For making a brilliant start to her GCSE courses as well as her achievements outside of school in ice hockey.

10.6 Cameron M. - For being a polite, hardworking student who is a positive role model to others, as well as his achievements in football this term.

10.7 Elizabeth F. - For being a reading buddy this term, being hardworking and having a great attitude!

10.8 Cerys C. - For consistently being a happy, positive member of the class. She always comes in smiling, works hard, and engages in her subjects as well as tutor time.

10.9 Rhiannon F. - For her commitment to extra-curricular music this term, as well as consistently working hard in her lessons.

Year11

Our Year 11 students have come to the end of their final Autumn Term here at Notley High and the GCSE exams are fast approaching.

Throughout this term our students have had lots of information to support them with their future career and education goals. Lots of students are really looking forward to having interviews with their respective colleges and sixth forms over the next few weeks. Please do make sure that you complete your applications if you have not completed them already.

All of our students have complete their Mock exams in November and have now received the results from these exams during our Mock results morning on 14th December. I know from lots of conversations that I have had with students that some were very happy and equally some slightly disappointed. But as I said to the students when we gave out their results, it's important to use these as motivation for the next 6 months, the more that they put in the more they will achieve.

Interventions have continued in Maths and English during form time. These will continue throughout the year with small groups to support students' learning. Our period 6 tailored intervention sessions will be beginning in the New Year to support our students further with their exams.

During this term we went on our first rewards trip of the year to Winter Wonderland. The trip was fantastic, and thankfully not too cold! The students that went said that they had a great time and enjoyed all the food and rides as well as the ice skating. We are already looking forward to the next one to Jump Street at Easter.

Each tutor has been asked to nominate a student of the Term, congratulations and a huge well done to the following:

11.1JBU	Joshua M	11.2NTH	Keith S
11.3ZCO	Erin F	11.4RDA	Phoebe S
11.5CMU	Adam D	11.6JLE	Manuela H
11.7GJO	Evey D	11.8CTR	Rhiannon G
11.9AGR	Yen X		



Mr A Harrington, Year 11 Raising Standards Leader

Parents Evening and Prom date reminder:

The Year 11 Parents evening will be taking place on Thursday 12th January following its postponement due to the poor weather this week.

The Year 11 prom has provisionally been booked for Tuesday 27th June 2023 at The Essex Golf and Country Club. Please read through the Prom policy as this will explain the requirements that students need in order to attend this celebratory event.

I would like to wish all of our students and their families an enjoyable Christmas break. I look forward to a very successful 2023 when our students return on 5th January to start the Spring Term.

Years 12 & 13

This term we have welcomed a new cohort of Year 12 students who have settled into Braintree Sixth Form well, adapting to the more independent expectations of sixth form study and rising to the challenge of higher-level lessons. Year 13 have had to adjust to some new expectations too as we have changed the way we deliver our PDT programme meaning an earlier start to their day. We have been impressed by the way they have adapted to the change.

A big focus for our Year 13s this term has been applying to university which can be a hugely stressful process with them having to make decisions that will affect the rest of their lives. Many have visited universities for Open days and Taster sessions to enable them to whittle down their options to just five choices, as well as drafting and redrafting (often many times!) their personal statements. We are delighted that many have already received both conditional and unconditional offers from the universities they have chosen and that others have been invited for interviews. We wish them all luck throughout this process and will, of course, be here to support them every step of the way.

The school has held three important promotional events this term with the Open Morning for the whole school, the Pots 16 Careers' Fair at Braintree Racecourse and Braintree Sixth Form Open Evening, all of which the sixth form students have been enormously supportive with. Our prefect teams and subject ambassadors have helped with display work and delivering speeches, as well as engaging prospective students and their parents in conversations about what it will be like to study here next year. We are very proud of the great ambassadors they continue to be for the sixth form.

BSF has welcomed several guest speakers in this term, talking about topics like Earth Sciences, Climate Change, testicular cancer and different careers. This is an important part of the enrichment programme we offer them as it helps to broaden knowledge and open all of our eyes to the experiences of others and our place in the world. We are always eager to bring in people who have interesting experiences to share so please do get in touch if you think you could contribute to this programme of speakers.

Our prefect team have been busy organising fundraisers for Essex Air Ambulance (one of our chosen sixth form charities) and World AIDS day.



Ms C Dunton, Head of Sixth Form

Some of the team have taken on roles in the main school, either running the Student Council or working with the houses to organise more events. Our mental health prefects and ambassadors, who are all trained peer mentors, have started a new drop-in session for the lower school students on a Tuesday lunchtime.

All of our Year 13 students and many Year 12s were offered a mock interview this term – intended to prepare them for ‘real’ interviews they will soon have for universities, apprenticeships and employment. They had to write a letter of application in readiness for the interview and then be interviewed by career professionals. We hope that this will have been valuable practice for them all.

One of the final events of this term was the annual Enterprise Fair which Year 12 hold for Year 7 students. The students work in groups to set up businesses and market a product to the younger students. This year’s Year 12 did not disappoint and the event marked an excellent, unofficial start to the Christmas period.

As reports are sent home at the end of the term, we hope that parents and students alike will be rightly proud of what has been achieved so far, as well as seeing what needs to be focused on when we return in January. In the introductory talk I did to Year 12 parents in September, I referred to the time in sixth form as being a journey and remind all students now that nobody expects their journey to be finished by Christmas – there are still lots of opportunity to improve, develop and fulfil their aspirations and we look forward to working with all students in the new year to support them in taking these opportunities.

Reminders & Information

Reminders/key information

Thank you all for your support over during the final week of term, the weather conditions certainly made things a challenge at times.

I would like to remind parents and carers of some of our expectations regarding uniform, equipment:

Hoodies are not permitted in school. Students may wear a plain black school jumper under their blazer.

Black trainers are not permitted unless a valid medical reason is provided - a trainer pass will then be issued.

Jewellery must not be worn.

Students must bring their basic equipment to school every day, including a calculator. Tutors will be checking this weekly and rewarding students who have their equipment.

Students should be preparing for their January exams. We have been looking at different revision techniques during tutor time that students should now be using to help them revise. Please do support your child at home by providing a space to work.

Rewards Trip Criteria

Our rewards event this term will be running in just before the Easter holidays. The criteria to be invited on the trip has been shared with students and is as follows:

Attendance at all offered revision interventions

Homework completed on time to a good standard

No antisocial behaviour

Being on time to lessons

Fewer than 5 C3 or C4 detentions

Dates for your 2023 Diary

W/b Monday 16 January – Exam week

Wednesday 1 February – Year 10 apprenticeship Fair

Thursday 2 March – World Book Day

Wednesday 22 March – Spring Concert

Thursday 12 January – Matilda – All cast to visit and watch live show

Monday 23 January – Brilliant Club, Scholar's programme. Cambridge University.

Tuesday 24 January – Six: Year 7 History students to learn about Henry VIII's wives

Wednesday 25 January – Othello – Year 13 A Level students, compulsory theatre visit

Friday 27 January – GCSE Science Live – Year 10 GCSE student visit

Thursday 2 February – Back to the Future – GCSE & A Level student visit to see live performance

Thursday 16 March – GCSE Geography Field Trip – Walton on the Naze

Tuesday 21 March – GCSE Geography Field Trip – Stratford

School Council

There have been a lot of exciting changes at Notley High School this academic year, and the Student Council have been busy reviewing and discussing even bigger plans. Oscar Parry, year 10, shows a great enthusiasm for our Student Council, knowing that the efforts of the Council will make a “positive contribution to the school”.

The Student Council, in their November meeting, commented upon many great changes that have occurred:

The cafeteria queuing system: a new system for queuing has left the cafeteria feeling safer and more ordered.

Anti-bullying initiatives have become more pronounced and in January, this will be extended further with the peer mentoring programme.

New toilets: all toilets in the school have been replaced, and now all toilet blocks are open: this means that students are safer.

The electrical works and painting of the school, to ensure that this a positive working environment.

New improved canteen menu: the employment of new canteen staff

House Points: a greater emphasise is now on rewarding our students for their great achievements. Teachers are actively providing House points so that we can celebrate success.

Trips: Our trips are back!

Charity work: the school, so far this academic year, has already raised over £2000 for charity. We are so proud of our community for doing this.

Late detentions: students have also praised the introduction of the late detentions.

School clubs: we now have over 50 different clubs running at school.

The Student Council is built of students from every form and every year group, which means that all students get a voice to what happens here at Notley High School. It is crucial, for us as a school, to know what students think and feel about the changes that are occurring.

The School Council, this term, have been discussing bullying and how we can ‘clamp down’ on any anti-social behaviour. We have ensured that students know how to report bullying, through the school website (Student Homepage: Report a Concern), through our ‘Worry Box’ system and our strong pastoral system. We have also spent form times (through our Thought for the Week) looking at how we can create a culture that is safe and welcoming for all. One where bullying is not welcomed by anyone.

Our Council members are busily gathering feedback from students in their Tutor groups ready for our next Student Council meeting in January.

Christmas Break

We wish all students and families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We will return to school on

5 Jan 2023

Sixth Form Prefect Reports

This has been a long and challenging term and as a team of prefects we have been busy. We have enjoyed seeing all the positive changes that have happened within the Sixth Form this term, and we look forward to playing a role in the positive changes still to come. During this term we have felt privileged to be able to represent our Sixth Form and deliver speeches at both the lower school Open Day and our Sixth Form Open Evening. Below are some quotes from other members of the prefect team.

Head Prefects



One aspect of the role we have enjoyed during this term was the Sixth Form open evening. It was great to invite all the potential future students and their parents to look around our sixth form. I'm glad we could offer as much information as possible to them so they can decide on their post 16 options.

Deputy Prefects

This year as sports prefect, I have been building my coaching skills through the development of our Sixth Form netball team, as well as attending sporting events with Notley, such as cross country. Also I have enjoyed attending events, where I've had the chance to speak to prospective student and parents about our sporting options such as clubs and our BTEC sport course.

Sports Prefect

I have been working to develop a garden for the Sixth Form and we all as a Sixth Form enjoyed a talk from Jules Pretty about small changes, we can make to reduce our carbon footprint.

Environmental Prefect

This year, the house prefects and I have been working alongside Miss Ryan to create a better Café6, for example we have been researching into the possibility of getting a new and improved coffee machine.

House leader Prefect

During this term we ran our first meeting in the lower school and collected students' opinions on important subjects such as bullying and treatment of the school environment. We then discuss this information with the Senior Leadership Team. It has been nice to interact and listen to the lower school students.

The School Council Prefects

I think I can speak on behalf of all the prefects when I say that becoming prefects has been an amazing experience. The small things like our colourful fancy lanyards and rather humorous Wednesday meetings have completely made the job what it is.

Prefect

Throughout this year there has been many events I have been a part of. These include both open days for the Sixth Form and Notley, where I was able to talk to prospectus students and parents about how both are a great environment to be a part of. With my role as house prefect, I've been to various different meetings where we have discussed future house competitions, but also how we can make this school even better, so that the students feel welcomed and have a feeling of belonging. Furthermore, I have enjoyed supporting Notley in many sporting events such as the dodgeball interhouse competition that took place last month and the cross-country event that was held at Tabor. Finally, I would like to say that this role has expanded my knowledge and given me opportunities and skills necessary to succeed not only university but life itself in the future.

Prefect

Governors' Update

It has been wonderful to welcome all the new students to the school this term and as governors we have enjoyed meeting and chatting to many on our visits. The autumn term has given us a great opportunity to come and see what's going on at Notley, recognise the huge improvements that have been made throughout the school and to be able to join in with celebrating students' fantastic achievements, in and out of school – well done to every one of you, we are really proud!

We are delighted to have welcomed three new governors to the Local Governing Committee this term; Abbey Hartshorne-Abbott, Jacky Foster and Colin Freeman, all of whom have children attending the school, and bring a range of experiences and skills to strengthen our overall purpose. We also said goodbye to Sarah Sanctuary, Phil Redhead and Trevor Parrott, who will be greatly missed after serving on the Governing Committee for a number of years.

This term we have undertaken a range of 'official' monitoring visits to look at the whole school provision for SEND, safeguarding, wellbeing (pupil and staff), culture and ethos (including behaviour management approaches and systems), pupil premium and disadvantage and we have also looked in depth at the provision within sixth form and for careers. On these visits, we take the opportunity to triangulate information and explanations we are given in governors meetings, with external reports about the school, the surveys that staff, students, and parents/carers complete, and what we observe and hear ourselves within school. We report this information back to the school and central Trust and use it to provide challenge and hold leaders to account, as well as acknowledging what the school is doing well.

As noted, there have been many, many improvements at school this term, these include; the improved appearance and displays that have boosted the sense of pride and belonging for all at school; an overhaul of tutor time with the aim of creating opportunities to deliver tailored interventions and support for students learning; and a strengthening of the systems in place to tackle disruptive behaviour. Furthermore, alongside external visitors to the school, we have recognised the excellent safeguarding provision and also the outstanding range of pastoral and wellbeing provision in place to support students.

The favourite part of our visits is of course seeing enthusiastic and engaged learners and hearing first hand from students about their experiences, which we try to do as much as possible. With the introduction of more face-to-face events at school, like performances, open days/evenings, parents' evenings and so on, it has also been a pleasure for us to be able to support these and have the opportunity to chat to parents/carers, or others in the local community about their experiences of the school. It has been lovely to hear from you about your perception of the positive changes and their impact on your young people's learning and experiences at school.

We know that whilst there have been enormous strides made in Notley becoming the place we all want it to be; where every student feels nurtured, valued and encouraged to be their best self and that recent surveys suggest the majority of parents/carers and students now feel this is what Notley represents, there is always room to improve and we very much take a reflective and open approach to feedback and suggestion. We love hearing what students think when we visit, so please encourage them to come and have a chat with us and please chat to us yourselves when we are at school events, or feel free to get in touch via the school.

Our plans for the new year are to both continue to provide critical challenge to leaders, alongside supporting the school to become excellent, via our monitoring visits, meetings, and other work and also to create as many opportunities as we can to hear from key stakeholders a little more, so the students, yourselves as parents/carers and also other members of the community. We are not employed by school and are all volunteers, most with full time jobs, but we endeavour to be represented at as many school events and open evenings as possible, so look forward to seeing you there.

Thank you once again for your continued support of the school and please don't hesitate to get in touch with us; we hope you have a lovely festive break.

Thanks,

Claire Hooks (Chair), Nicola Goodwin (vice-chair), Ken Yap, Ha Cole, Matt Ager, Jacky Foster, Colin Freeman, Abbey Hartshorne-Abbott, Amelia Lennox (staff) and Neil Bridgwater (staff).

Exams Week



After Christmas, all students except for Year 11 will sit exams in what will now be known as “Exams Week” from Monday 16 - Friday 20 January.

Year 11 will have a bespoke week which will include sessions of revision skills and study skills, masterclasses in each subject and presentations and information on careers and career pathways.

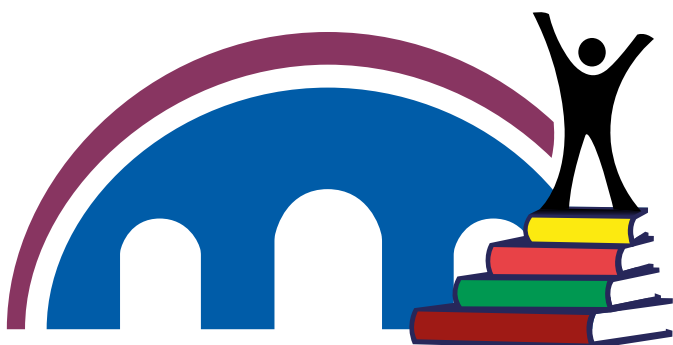
You should have received a letter explaining this as well as a copy of the exam timetable outlining which subject exams are on which day. If you have not received this, please email your child’s tutor who will be able to assist you with obtaining a copy. The school believes that these Exams Weeks will have a real positive impact on students’

learning and understanding of their strengths and weaknesses within each subject allowing for wider misconceptions to be addressed and further progress to be made. In addition, we hope that they will also have a positive impact in preparing students for taking their GCSE exams in allowing them to sit programmed exams under very similar conditions.

You can support your child in preparing for these exams by helping them to create a revision timetable and revision materials as well as offering tips on revision techniques, etc.

As a school we will also provide students support with this in the lead up to exams.

B.A.T. Reviews



Bridge Academy Trust

This term has seen Notley working with schools from across Bridge Academy trust to monitor and evaluate various aspects of our day-to-day practice. As well as working weekly with Excellence leads in 12 different subjects, we have had experts in Maths, Science, English, Music, PE and the Sixth Form working with our heads of subject and faculties to exchange ideas, work through curriculum maps and developing the support and challenge within the subjects. These have been useful, and both the staff from other schools and our middle leaders have come away with innovative ideas and examples of best practice to elevate our provision to an even higher level. This process will continue into the New Year, looking at other subjects and specific areas of the school to ensure we are providing the best education possible for your children.



Open Morning 2022

Notley High School Open Morning - 17 September 2022

Notley High School flung open its doors on a Saturday in September to welcome Braintree families to its annual open day.

Every department was able to showcase itself in its own way for the event – which proved hugely popular with parents and prospective pupils alike.

The science department was quite literally buzzing with activity!

Head Science Technician Sharon Nicholson explained: “Everything in here is about celebrating science. We are doing dissections, flame testing and electro-plating. For the dissections we have an ox heart and a pig’s

pluck (heart, liver and lungs). Next door we have a ‘dark room’ where there is a buzzer, a ‘what’s in the box’ game, maggot racing and all sorts of other things.

“It’s all about inspiring and engaging kids into science.”

Year seven pupil Alexander Francis was one of those chosen to be on hand to help visitors to the school. He said: “My mum was a scientist and so was my Dad. I love science. Science never gets boring! You get to do stuff that you think wouldn’t actually happen. I want to share my love of science with everyone, it’s exquisite.”

Paola D’Amico, a year eight pupil, agreed, saying: “We want to show people that science can actually be fun.”





The playing fields were a hive of activity, with year 10 boys out playing football. Harry Morbin, PE teacher and year eight Raising Standards Leader, explained: We are holding a training session for our year 10 boys which is being led by a Tottenham Hotspur coach. This will showcase our new community links to Spurs for our open day today.”

Meanwhile, in the gym, young visitors were able to burn off some energy on the trampolines while parents could talk to teachers about the PE curriculum

In English there was no shortage of activities for youngsters to participate in. In one room there was a murder mystery to find out who killed Mr Peabody, as well as a ‘Photo Booth’ with a selection of interesting Sherlock Holmes props. In the other, even more activities.

English teacher Beth Quinn said: “In here we have an activity based on every KS3 unit, which are Dystopia,

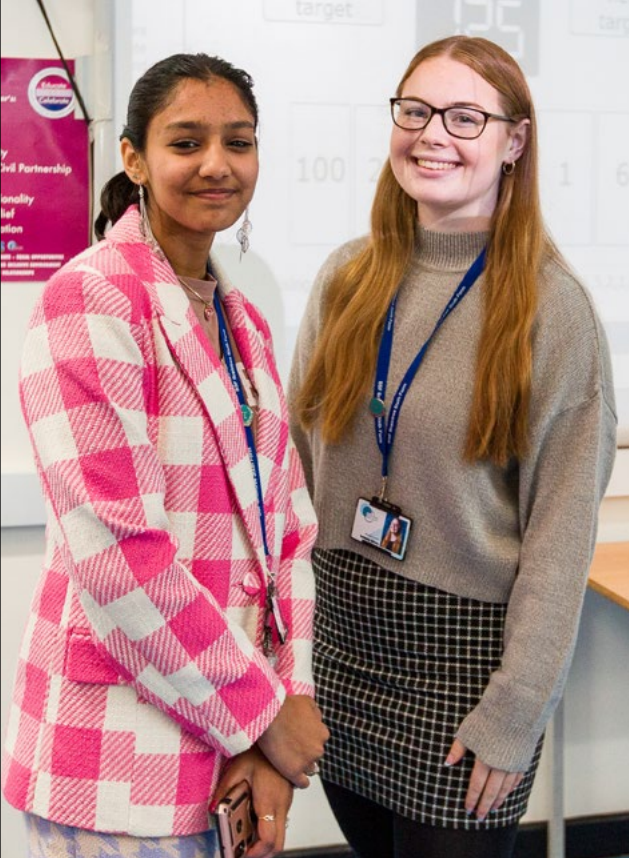
Gothic texts, Myths and Shakespearean Insults! There will also be a Spelling Bee. The aim is to inspire the youngsters coming in and showcase what we do.”

Year 10 pupil Ethan Cosway, who was helping in the Shakespearean insults section, said: “I love English because it’s so creative and there aren’t really any rules. I’m really looking forward to helping out today.”

In Geography prospective pupils were encouraged to talk about “where in the world?” by talking about things like produce or family. Philosophical questions were being asked and discussed in PER, while in History, teacher Nicole Hill had brought her amazing vision of the WW1 trenches to life – in the classroom! On entering the room, prospective Notley pupils were ‘recruited’. Teacher Rebecca Davies said: They are told they have to be at least 18 and over 5ft3”. Then they go through various information points and at the end they are recruited as either an officer or a sergeant - then they have to walk through the trenches!”







There was plenty of ‘je ne sais quoi’ going on in the MFL rooms, with word games and displays in one room and an amazing ‘Language Café’ in the other, offering a choice of traditional French and Spanish snacks such as pain au chocolat, brioche and baguettes for French and queso, chorizo and tortilla for Spanish.

Visitors to the Drama department were treated to a performance by cast members from the forthcoming show Matilda as they ran through the first four scenes, showcasing their acting skills and belting out some of the songs.

Lauren White, Head of Drama, was on hand to talk to year sixes about what sort of extra-curricular activities they can get involved in at Notley.

Head of Maths Laura Wharfe said: “We have a couple of rooms here today where there will be various activities going on such as a countdown, a treasure hunt and code-breaking activities. We really want to showcase the positive side of maths today.

Year 12 A Level students Lucy Price, Bethany Milner and Kareemah Auckloo were all on hand to help out with some of the games. Bethany said: We are hoping to show prospective pupils that maths can be great fun!”

In the Music department pupils were busy showing year sixes how to write music on a PC using special software programme, and were also treated to various musical performances by students such as Rhiannon Foster who sang Riptide and Abigail Foster, who performed a piece on the flute.

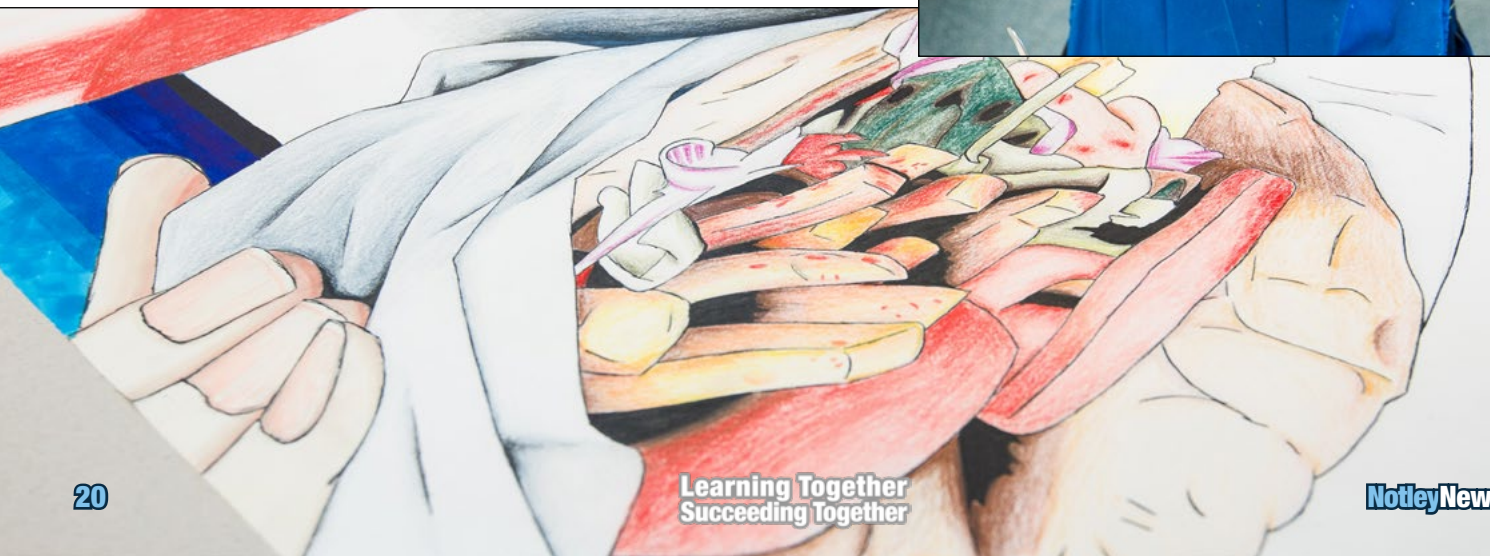




In Art visitors were able to view some current and former art students' art books and talk to head of art Bryony Roper and art teacher Rebecca Payne about the curriculum. Prospective pupils were also invited to get stuck in by taking part in a large Keith Haring project. They were able to paint pop art figures accompanied by words based on community values, ready to be added to a large collage board. Ms Payne said: "It's really nice to see them get their hands dirty get involved. Hopefully we can display the board in school, and they will be able to see it finished when they start at Notley in year 7!"

In the Textiles department, pupils were showing visitors how to make a drawstring bag and decorating them using stamps that pupils had made in Product Design.

Harrison Beesley – Year 9, showed people how to make the stamps which were being used in textiles "This is my favourite subject, I love doing things with my hands I have my own work area at home in my garage where I make things, mainly wood products at the moment and I love it!"





In the school Library, year sixes were given a quiz which they could do while walking around the school, giving them a chance to win a badge. They could also colour in bookmarks and play various games. Head Librarian Bambi Holden spent time chatting to the visiting year sixes about what books they like to read.

Although students don't study Business until year 10, teachers were still on hand to chat to pupils about the subject. And, to make it fun, visitors were given some food for thought by taking part in a vote on which of two caterpillar cakes was the original M&S cake.

Visitors to the Wellbeing section were shown the school's new sensory room by Emma Capon and Jo Morton-Brown, and in the SEN department, visitors were able to view the memorial garden and talk to staff about their facilities.

The day was a big success for Notley and feedback from parents who brought their children along for the day was hugely positive.

A massive thank you to all the staff, students, parents and carers who helped make this a real morning to remember.





MerryChristmas...

...from all at Notley High School

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, a time which should be full of love and laughter. And, we hope that for all of our families that this is the case. As part of our tutor time curriculum, we wanted our students to extend a kind hand out into our community and offer a sense of festive cheer and merriment to our local care homes and nursing homes.

We learnt during lock-down, as a society, that we need each other and that we need to embrace the community around us. We learnt what it is to be isolated, and how it feels to be separated from loved ones. We learnt also of the wonderful work that care homes and nursing homes do, as we stood on our doors and clapped for carers. So, this festive season, each of our students wrote a Christmas card to a stranger in a nursing home.

Students in form time, were provided with a Notley Christmas card (designed by Miss Wallace in our ADT department) and were asked to write a Christmas Card to a member of our Braintree community, who lives in one of our local care and nursing homes. Students were so thoughtful in what they wrote, opening up a little of their lives and hearts to make someone else smile.

"You don't know me personally, nor do I know you, although, I would like to share the Christmas spirit!"
(Corey, year 7)



"I really hope you have an amazing Christmas surrounded by the people you love, whether that's your friends or family or your care workers".
(Katelyn, year 11)

In the words of Yeats, "There are no strangers here; only friends you haven't yet met".



WinterWonderland

Photos: Staff on trip

On Thursday, 8 December, Notley High School and Braintree Sixth form embraced the Christmas spirit at Winter Wonderland in London's Hyde Park.

Winter Wonderland features a huge selection of festive entertainment and activities, from ice skating and circus shows to a Christmas market and live music.

The students who attended this trip were in years 10, 11, 12 and 13 and it was part of the school's drive to celebrate those that do the right thing every day. Students were free to roam the Wonderland, experiencing the Christmas markets, the fairground rides and traditional fairground stalls. Nobody had more fun than Mr Cunningham, who after great effort and determination was victorious in securing

a giant banana as a prize. The coach driver wanted to charge the school an additional cost of a seat bus due to 'Mr Banana' being taller than the average lower school student!

One Year 10 student remarked, "It was such a great trip. Winter Wonderland is so beautiful, and it just feels so nice to be acknowledged for doing the right thing". A Year 11 student "Just loved it!".

The atmosphere at WinterWonderland was superb, and everyone had loads of fun. It was a late evening for staff and students (returning to the school just before midnight), but everyone had an incredible experience and we look forward to running many more rewards trips like this soon.



A Flag at the South Pole



Geography House Competition: Design a flag for Antarctica

1 December was Antarctica Day

On 1 December 1959, 12 nations signed the Antarctic Treaty, a document declaring that Antarctica would be off limits to military activity and setting it aside as a place for peace and scientific discoveries. Since then, the number of countries that have signed the Antarctica Treaty has risen to 52

As a legacy to the 50th Anniversary of the Antarctica Treaty, OUR SPACES initiated Antarctica Day in 2010.

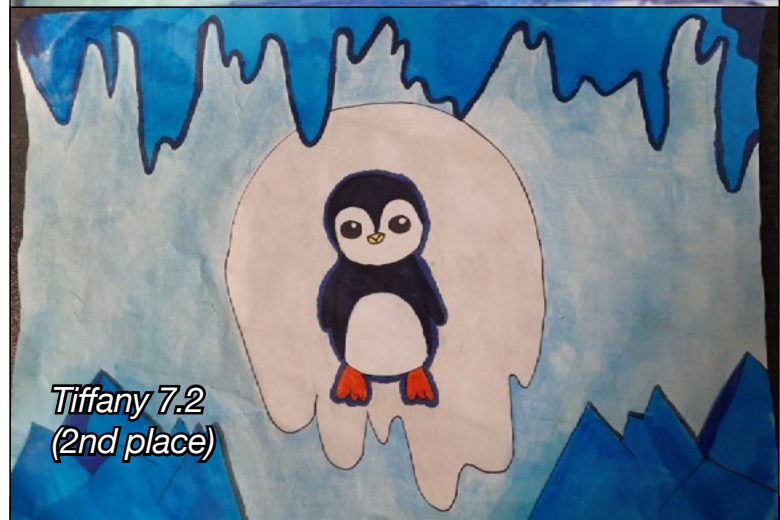
Even though Antarctica is a continent it has no permanent residents and as a result does not have a national flag. We tasked the students with designing a flag for Antarctica and were pleased to see the results that the students produced.

With such an excellent range of flags to choose from the Humanities department had a difficult job on their hands.

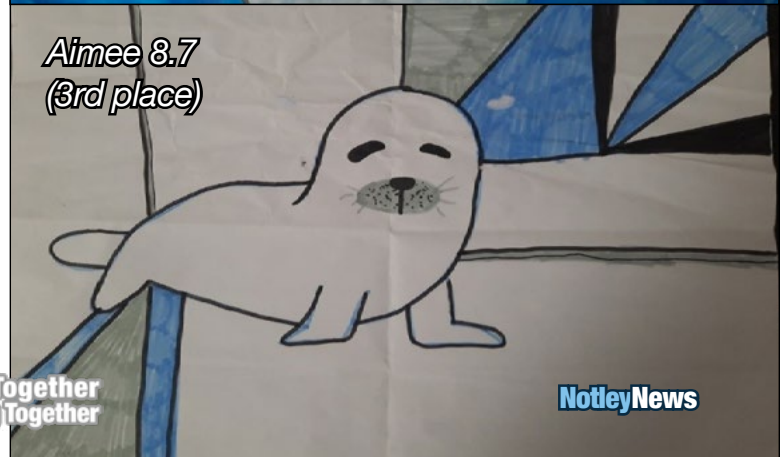
We would like to congratulate all the participating students for their fantastic efforts and are pleased to announce that the top 3 chosen flags are shown on the right.



*Scarlett 7.6
(1st place)*



*Tiffany 7.2
(2nd place)*



*Aimee 8.7
(3rd place)*



Photos: Staff on trip

JumpStreet

On Wednesday, 7 December x year 8 students descended on Jump Street, Chelmsford. These students had been invited on the year 8 reward trip, something that Mr Morbin (year 8 RSL) had been busily organising behind the scenes to celebrate those students that do the right thing every day. Mr Morbin was key for this trip to be a success, and he was so passionate about the trip running this year, as “It is crucial that we celebrate those students who do the right thing every day. The ones that do everything that Notley is about: pride, hard-work and kindness”.

The trip was a wonderful opportunity for students to unwind and have fun with their year group. One year 8 students said, “this was the best trip ever. I am so tired now!”.

JumpStreet is a trampoline park with a huge array of different ‘bouncy’ activities. There is a main court area, which sees around thirty trampolines set up across the floor, so students have no choice but to being around, and being they did!

Most students spent the entire hour doing flips, as staff we were surprised that they left the venue upright, as they had spent the previous hour rotating constantly. At the venue, there is also a slam dunk area, two big bags (for students to flip onto, like a stunt double in a James Bond film); two dodgeball courts and two walls made entirely of trampolines. It really was a great trip.

With ten members of staff giving up their time to accompany this trip, it really was a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all things positive

Ms M Gladen



World Challenge



Photo and opposite page:
Dimitry B on Unsplash

Photo: Rob Hampson
on Unsplash

World Challenge Borneo

For the first time, Notley High School and Braintree Sixth Form has teamed up with World Challenge to give our students a trip of a lifetime. Eleven students, in July 2023, will spend 14 days travelling around Borneo and exploring the country and culture. Students will trek through the rainforests, and see first-hand the impact of deforestation on our natural environment. During this trek, students may even get to see pygmy elephants in the world. The trek runs over a few days, and so students will experience camping under the Borneo stars: what an experience to camp in the rainforest. After the trekking, students will then spend a few days volunteering at a Sun Bear rehabilitation centre. The sun bear is the smallest of the bear species, and are hunted for their bile (believed to be medicinal) and used for entertainment: those lucky enough to be rescued from bile factories or entertainment venues get to spend the rest of their life safe and happy in one of the rehabilitation centres. Students will even get the chance to make toys for these bears, as they are incredibly intelligent creatures. And, what is a trip to Borneo without seeing Orangutans? Students will end this 'trip of a lifetime' visiting an Orangutan Centre, a place where orphaned Orangutans are rescued – with the hope that they will one day be released into the wild.

What makes World Challenge so special is that students 'Earn their Place' and are encouraged to pay for the trip themselves. Students can pack bags at supermarkets, cash in all birthday and Christmas money, complete chores and get a Saturday job (as a few ideas), and when in country, they will visit supermarkets and cook for the entire team. This trip is as much about cultural growth as it is about growth of the individual.



We hope to offer a World Challenge trip each year, and so next year places will be open for current year 9 and year 10 students to sign up. We don't know where we are travelling to yet, but we do know that it will be a trip of dreams.

Ms M Gladen

Southwold Trip



Over the past month, our year 13 geography class has begun the process of completing our coursework, known as the NEA. This piece of coursework accounts for 20% of our overall grades. Our NEA began with watching some videos in lesson to introduce us to the idea of the NEA and to Geography fieldwork in general. This year, we faced the extra challenge of not doing fieldwork at GCSE due to Covid-19. After we had learnt about some sampling techniques from the videos, we went on the first of our two trips to Southwold.

The first trip to Southwold was to allow us to learn about the area of Southwold, some fieldwork techniques and how to develop good a good tittle and sub-questions, a requirement for the NEA. We arrived on the first day at Southwold and headed to the headquarters of the Geography Fieldwork Academy, the company that would be teaching us about fieldwork. We then went on a guided tour of Southwold, on which we learnt about some of the issues facing Southwold such as gentrification and second home ownership. After a brief stop for lunch, we went to the beach to learn about some physical fieldwork techniques. One method of data collection that we learnt about was the orange drift test, in which you throw an orange into the sea and then see how far they travel in a set time to calculate the speed of Longshore drift.

After a summary of the day's activities back in the classroom, we got back on the minibus and headed to the Youth hostel where we enjoyed a

pleasant meal and a well-deserved rest. The next day consisted of learning about various human fieldwork techniques. We were sent out into the town by ourselves, as one big group, to practise the techniques such as pedestrian counts and holiday home mapping. Once we had finished, we went back to the classroom for a session on developing tittles and sub-questions. We even had a go at making some for ourselves.

Once we had returned from our trip, all our time in our Geography lessons was dedicated to figuring out what we wanted our investigation to be on and completing the necessary planning for it. To complete the NEA, you need to have a main tittle question and three sub-questions, all of which must be unique and developed individually. The most important part of the planning process was the proposal form, a small summary of what we wanted to investigate and the methods of data collection that we would use to gather the evidence needed to answer the questions.

After all that had been completed, it was time for the second trip to Southwold. This would be our opportunity to collect all the data that we needed to prove the answers to our questions. Once we arrived, we visited the Geography Fieldwork Academy again to gather the equipment we needed. From there we split into two groups, the group doing physical fieldwork down on the beach, and the group doing human fieldwork on the high street and the surrounding town.

Conveniently, both the groups contained exactly half the class. From there the physical group headed down to the Southern beach and began to carry out their fieldwork, slowly making their way North, while the human group began walking around the town to complete pedestrian counts and questionnaires. This continued after a brief lunch break. At three o'clock, both groups assembled at the pier to meet the fieldwork instructor and to fly the drone. This allowed us to get an aerial overview of Southwold, and to capture some stunning pictures of the town below. The second day was much the same, with the two groups splitting up to carry out their fieldwork, before heading home once again.

Overall, the two trips were very enjoyable. It was interesting to learn about Southwold and some to see the impacts of some of the topics that we learn about in Geography for ourselves. I would also like to thank Miss Wilcox, Miss Burton and Mr Bridgewater for accompanying us on these trips and for supporting us as we planned our NEAs. I would love to give you a summary of what they did while we carried out our investigations, but I do not know, though I have heard that it involved cake and coffee!

Amie Plumer





Year 11 Careers Fair

Braintree Racecourse

On Wednesday 21 September, Year 11 students visited a careers fair at Chelmsford City Racecourse. Notley High School and Braintree Sixth Form are members of the Braintree IAG Cluster Group, a group comprising of 7 schools who work together to raise the aspirations of our students through careers education.

The fair hosted representatives from a range of public and private sector employers, as well as universities, local colleges, and training providers. Students were given the opportunity to discuss their future plans; ask questions and see the range of KS5 courses and apprenticeships available to them post year 11.

Mrs M Robb

“I found out what universities and sixth forms are available for the degree and subjects I want to take and the grades to get in.”

“Loved it!” “It was very helpful”





Child Development

As part of the Child Development course, twelve year 11 students were invited to attend John Ray Infants school to complete their child study. Students were asked to design two play activities to assess the development norms of the child they were paired with. The morning was filled with creativity, from painting to nature trails, obstacle courses to puzzles. It was lovely to see our students engage with the young children, who clearly enjoyed the opportunity of seeing new faces in their classroom. Many students left saying that this experience had confirmed they want to work with children in the future.

It was also a pleasure to meet a former Notley Child Development student who currently works in the reception classes!

Mrs Christian, Headteacher said, "Just to let you know that the class teachers have all commented on how polite and helpful the students were yesterday. A total credit."

We are extremely grateful to John Ray Infants for giving our students this opportunity and look forward to working with them again in the future.

Mrs M Robb





YPESH History Trip

Although our Year 9 Battlefields Trip starts very early, whilst Braintree is cloaked in darkness, this does not quieten the participants! The coach buzzes with anticipation of an adventure, to be shared with friends, whilst the rest of the world sleeps. For many students, the journey is a key point – and always gets a positive mention, with comments such as ‘I really enjoyed being able to travel with friends and visit some different places.’

A short coffee stop at the Services at Folkestone transformed staff into humans and then we were onto the train and really on our way. For the first time ever, students didn’t seem to fall for our ‘look out for the fish when we are under the Channel’ but the Coach 1 driver did get some of them in Belgium when he told them to look out of the window and they would see a telegraph pole farm!

The two coaches had slightly different routes to follow for some of the day. At some point though we all visited the dark and sombre German Cemetery at Langemark and the contrasting light but sobering, Commonwealth Cemetery at Tyne Cot. Here there are nearly 12,000 graves of soldiers. 8,000 of whom were unidentified. We ask students to try to think of each stone as a soldier on parade as that goes some way to bringing home the scale of lives lost. Mia felt ‘it was sad when we went to the graves where the fallen soldiers were unknown’ and here Mrs Cheung was very impressed by the moment of reflection and reading of some verses from the poem ‘For the fallen’, by Kenzie.

The coaches met up at the preserved trenches at Hill 62. Whilst some students looked at the museum’s collection of photos on the stereographs - which make them appear in 3D, for others this



was a more active highlight. Straight down into the trenches, through the dark tunnel - "Miss, there was a bat!", up again to look at the craters, repeat. 'My favourite part was going through the trenches.' said Lola. For Daisy too her favourite parts included 'going around the trenches.'

Later in the day we had time in the town of Ypres. We first stopped at the Menin Gate looking at some of the nearly 55,000 names of missing soldiers. Then it was into the town for a visit together to the chocolate shop ('the chocolate was delicious' - Aidan) and then some free time for students in groups. It is always lovely how many of them spend time finding a little gift to bring home for family members. This part of the day got lots of mentions. For Louis a key part was the 'Belgian waffles.' Rebecca and many others enjoyed the free time 'going into the town and looking around the shops.'

For the staff, this was our first Belgian trip since Covid, and we wondered what would have changed. The answer to that was nothing at our destinations but quite a lot in the processes of leaving and entering the country! There were far more checks at passport control, and I know parents will be as proud of the students as we were. Border Control Staff told us how impressed they were with our students' behaviour, adding that they wished pupils from every school they saw were as good. Unfortunately, that didn't stop them detaining Miss Marboeuf for a short while, as they were a little doubtful about her right of entry to the UK, but once the correct extra documents were found, she was, thankfully, able to re-join us!

I'll leave the final judgement on the day to some students. According to Callum 'The general trip was very fun'. For Ellessia 'I had a very fun day' and for Ruby, 'Overall it was really good and I'm glad I went.'

Mrs N Hill



HouseCompetitions



The Great International Bake Off

On 26 September the Modern Foreign Languages department celebrated European Day of Languages by hosting the Great International Bake off.

We were overwhelmed by the standard of the entries. We had some amazing cakes including the Colosseum, Venezuela, a cake in the shape of Dutch cheese and French Frogs legs and snails. In addition to these, we had several countries represented such as Nigeria, Hungary, Spain, Japan, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. As well as cakes we also had French croissants and macarons and Spanish churros entered.

It was a difficult decision, but we had to choose the winning three. After much debate, the judges, (made up of Miss Ryan, the languages teachers and some of our A-level MFL students) decided the winners.

First place

The Colosseum by Rose A

Second Place:

Venezuela by Paola D'A and Faith G

Third place:

France by Rebecca W

We are so proud of all the students that entered and are astounded by their baking talents and their creativity.

We would like to thank every student for entering and helping us to celebrate such an important day for the languages department.



History House Matchbox Competition

For our History House Competition, we asked students to create 'A Moment in Time' contained within a small box. We are sure that you will agree, our students didn't just capture a moment in history, but created something magical too.

By confining the size of the entries there was a need for entrants to think imaginatively about how they could convey their ideas, this led to lovely little touches such as matchsticks for soldiers standing guard over the Queen's coffin at a representation of her lying in state at Westminster Abbey - the shape

of the head of the matches echoing the shape of the bearskin helmets of guards' units. The winning entry, about the diary of Anne Frank, showed both imagination and research - the matchbox being turned into the front page of the diary itself whilst the inside contained objects such as a model of a marble, tiny letters, a photo and the Jewish Star of David.

Mrs Hill



L to R - Rebecca W (1st), Thomas W (2nd), Sophia T (3rd)

PE House Dodgeball Competition

On the week commencing the 21st November, the PE department hosted a dodgeball interhouse competition between year groups.

It was amazing to see such a great turnout from each House, as well as staff members for their Houses and tutor groups.

We played a version of dodgeball called 'Terrorball' where all Houses played against each other to eliminate other Houses and invade their areas. All students used great teamwork and communication to become champions! It was great to see everyone enjoying themselves.

Winners

Year 7 Winners: Winton/Franklin

Year 8 Winners: Parks

Year 9 Winners: Franklin/Parks

Miss C Trafford



The Orchard

Autumn 2022

The Orchard has seen lots of activity during the Autumn term this year including harvesting, exploring and digging.



During the summer holidays over 200 mature verbena plants were donated to the Orchard by a kind local resident. For a long time the ground was too hard to dig due to the lack of rain over the summer months, and the area where we planned to plant them was covered in overgrown brambles and weeds. Now that the ground has been cleared and is softer, we are working through the plants trying to get them in as quickly as possible. We are now over halfway there and look forward to seeing the flowers bloom next year, providing a natural and colourful barrier between areas, and lots of nectar for flying insects.

There are currently a small number of students helping to maintain The Orchard who take great pride in the difference they make each week. Giving the students sessions in the Orchard aims to engage them in nature and learning, while providing experiences and opportunities to develop and improve their mental, physical, and social wellbeing. One way that we have been able to achieve that this term is by learning how to use a metal detector to uncover 'treasure'.



The students have very high expectations of what is hidden beneath the grass which has provided opportunities to discuss how we would spend the vast amount of gold and money which we are yet to find! We were very excited to find a coin on one of first digs – though slightly disappointed that it was only a 1999 2 pence piece. Other exciting finds include parts of cans, nails and tin foil (from someone's lunch?!). Luckily we are able to make good use of all the holes we dig by promptly filling them with verbena plants!



POND NEWS



We have been exploring the pond whilst removing fallen leaves and have found a frog with a missing forearm and looked at a baby newt in water so we could see it's gills.



We have been amazed at the different mushrooms that have popped up in the Orchard this term...



Photos: Staff on trip



On Thursday 24 November, the Year 10 child development students visited Essex University and their new BabyLab. The students were shown around the BabyLab, “which looked just looked like a living room” and shown the EG cap that the babies wear during their “experiments”. The babies are tested for their understanding of object permanence, visual preference, and facial mirroring. We then had a mini lecture on Developmental Psychology- telling us all about the five secrets that have been discovered during the research.

“I was really surprised to hear babies walk 14,000 steps in a day” and we considered how babies fall over- 77 times a day yet pick themselves up and learn from their experiences”.

We had a long tour around the campus.

“I enjoyed the tour- I was surprised how big the university was, loved all the food stalls and the facilities and dorms.”

The new Business Centre had a lovely tropical garden to walk through and do independent studying in. This was the first trip that many of the students have been on since arriving at Notley, due to Covid-19, so it was lovely to have a day out together and the singing on the bus was beautiful!

It was great to hear one student remark, “I really want to go to university now.”

Mrs S Woodward



STEMEvent

On Tuesday the 29th of November, 16 of us Year 11s were fortunate enough to be invited to partake in a STEM event at eSmart networks, in Great Notley, which they held for the very first time. ESmart Networks is a part of the Nexus group, who have delivered essential infrastructure for years, and eSmart Networks, the newest but fastest growing company in the group, specialises in new electrical infrastructure and enables positive change in how we utilise and obtain our energy.

Our day began with a short presentation from our very welcoming hosts, (who were very kind to look after us all day) and explained their roles within the company as representatives in Human Resources. Additionally, they spoke passionately about the founding of eSmart, showing that within the market there have been increasingly high demands for green energy as the concept has rapidly spread in the recent years, namely in the increase of electric vehicles being chosen over internal combustion, inspiring us students about all the new opportunities the company and the growing industry may present in the future.

This was followed promptly by a discussion with visiting civil and electrical engineers, and the pair carefully explained to us their job roles and how they benefit in the new developing world of electric infrastructure. Both engineers gave us insight into their careers, introduced us to programs that helped them design such as AutoCAD - a highly innovative new digital software - and educated us on the various exciting aspects involved in their jobs, and the positives of working in their industry.

However, the day was not all talks, there was also challenges to be had! The hosts of eSmart gave us some materials and allowed us to create and design our own electric vehicle chargers which the engineers voted on and chose a favourite, but everyone who participated said it was a very enjoyable activity.

Furthermore, later the team at eSmart gave us a tour of their amazing facility and even showed us their onsite EV superchargers with a brief explanation as to how they work and the infrastructure needed to power them, and how they help other businesses and locations to install their own.



Lastly to round off the fantastic day, we listened to a few more members of the eSmart team who explained their projects and their roles such as the directing manager and the operating manager showing us that all aspects of STEM fit into many areas of this business not just in construction and engineering. We were also told about the benefits of working at eSmart, many workers highlighting how they love the flexibility and variety of their jobs and the abundant progression opportunities available. We valued this honest discussion, many students saying how it was nice to be informed about future job prospects, and we liked how we were treated like adults, especially at an age where so many choices lie ahead of us.

Overall, we had an incredibly positive experience at eSmart. Many were inspired by the sheer excitement and positivity shown by all the hosts, many showing how a career in STEM is one that is challenging but also one that is incredibly rewarding. The industry continues to develop, and the infrastructure continues to spread, all indicating that it really is a suitable time to “go green.”

We would like to say a special thank you to our hosts, all that spoke to us, Mrs Fouché, Mrs Nicholson and Mr Wishart enabling us to go on this great trip!

Keith Squibb and Yen Xu





NOTLEY HIGH SCHOOL / BRAINTREE SIXTH FORM & TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Notley High School/Braintree Sixth Form and Tottenham Hotspur are pleased to announce a new and exciting partnership ahead of the 2022/23 academic year. This will involve a full-time Tottenham Hotspur Global Football Development coach working with Notley/Braintree and our local Primary schools and grass roots football clubs to deliver high quality coaching.

The Football Development Coach will be based at Notley High School/Braintree Sixth Form and will be responsible for overseeing the new Sixth Form Football Development Programme, alongside creating and supporting links with local Primary schools.

The Tottenham Hotspur coach will also work closely across the school and will support the delivery of the extra-curricular sports programme to students in Years 7-11. The aim of this is to develop not only the overall ability of our students, but also to engage students with the true values and life skills of sport.

The Sixth Form programme will allow students to continue their studies within sport alongside developing their practical ability. The link with Tottenham Hotspur will give students the prospect to continue their studies into further education alongside the club itself and the opportunity of pursuing a career within the football industry.

The main aims of the partnership with Tottenham Hotspur are to provide all students, current and future, a clear development pathway from the age of 11 to 19 through sport. There is the opportunity and desire to grow and expand, including a unique Girls Football Development Centre (September 2023). It will also provide a pathway into the Clubs Unique coaching pathway for talented and dedicated students via the Global Football Development Coaching Excellence Centre (CEC) programme. CEC Coaches to receive mentoring, CPD and a clear pathway to move into employment as a Tottenham Hotspur coach.



Tottenham Timeline

September

A Tottenham Hotspur-led tournament at Notley High School for multiple local primary schools, year six students.

Notley High School Open Day, physical exposure to the local community of the new partnership.

Careers Fair at Chelmsford Racecourse, presence to network amongst local schools and year 11 students for their further education options at Braintree Sixth Form.

October

Assembly talks with years 7, 8, 9 & 10, exposing the new opportunities students have with the Development Centre now active within the school.

Coffee morning talks with parents and year six students interested in enrolling with Notley High School.

The October Half Term U11 and U16 initiative saw eight grassroots teams within the local community/70+ young people visit Notley High School and Braintree Sixth Form for a FREE session led by Tottenham Hotspur coaches.

4 x Braintree Sixth Form students were identified and shortlisted to apply for Coaching Excellence Centre with Tottenham Hotspur.

November

Held a bespoke year 11 assembly introducing the sixth form programme and the further opportunities that come with enrolling on the programme and Braintree Sixth Form.

A busy Sixth Form Open Evening networking amongst prospective year 11 students interested in enrolling with Braintree Sixth Form and the Tottenham Hotspur Football Development Centre.

The sixth form achieved its first league win in the Essex County Schools & Colleges U19 League.

December

Braintree Sixth Form student Josh N attended his induction at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium for the Coaching Excellence Centre.

On 21st December we are hosting a 5-a-side tournament with current year 11 students from local secondary schools.

Braintree Sixth Form Coaching Excellence Centre student(s) to attend/supervise at a Tottenham Hotspur Premier Day at the training centre.

Jack Petchey

September: Emmanuel C

Manny works hard in all his lessons and strive to be the best he can be. He is also to help other students in his classes that are less able academically. Manny is very caring young boy. He enjoyed his role as being a buddy, which saw him supporting the needs of other students across the school. The buddy system is an integral component of our Notley Community.

He is so strong giving support to his peers and his younger brother even though he is struggling with losing his dad.

Chosen by: The Student Council.



October: Nicholas W

Nicholas has overcome many barriers, including issues with his medical health. He faces every day with a smile and his only goal is to make others happy which he does every day over and over. He is a good friend to all and despite his difficulties, he always tries his best. Outside of school, Nicholas is part of army cadets as well as playing drums. He is part of a youth orchestra and the school band! He never gives up even in the most difficult days when he's faced with pain. He is a delightful student, and a pleasure for all to teach.

Chosen by: The Student Council

November: Lola N-W

Volunteer work with a local youth group, Lola has been volunteering for over a year with Torchlight youth group, helping plan activities, helping and encouraging young people with additional needs to join in.

Lola has also supported the group on a residential trip away, giving up her free time. Lola helps every Monday evening and makes a positive difference to the lives of the young people who attend

Chosen by: The Sixth-form prefects.



The Jack Petchey Foundation's Vision

The Jack Petchey Foundation's vision is of a world where young people have high aspirations; the opportunity to develop their potential; the chance to be architects of their own future; to play a full part in society and to be valued and recognised for the positive things they achieve.

**If you think you can,
you can!**

The Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme

The Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme is running in over 1700 schools, colleges and clubs. Established in 1999, it started in East London, but now operates in all London Boroughs and in Essex. The Achievement Award winners are young people who have gone above and beyond to achieve – perhaps when others thought they might fail.

Each award winner will receive a certificate, pin badge and a book from Sir Jack himself. They will also choose how to spend a £300 grant to benefit their chosen area within the school.

It is a scheme to recognise and celebrate the achievements of young people, to help them take advantage of opportunities and to play a full part in society. Grants of over £35 million have been given since the establishment of the Foundation.

Over the course of the school year, Notley High School & Braintree Sixth form can make 9 awards to individual students.

All award winners are invited to attend a prestigious ceremony, to be presented with a medallion in front of their families, friends, and VIPs.

It is not about the fastest, the smartest or being the best. The award is designed to recognise outstanding individual achievements, which can include:

- Helping others over and above expectations
- Being a good role model/mentor
- Showing bravery
- Overcoming a personal challenge
- Volunteering
- Trying hard or breaking through a personal barrier



Lindsay Fouché

This year's Jack Petchey Staff Leadership Award goes to Lindsay Fouché for her hard-work and dedication to the school over the last 19 years. This year, Lindsay has taken on the leadership of two faculties, to support the academic outcomes of students. This is what drives Lindsay in all that she does, it is her focus and determination to get things right for each and every student in our school. From the moment you meet Lindsay, her passion for education and students is contagious. And, this is paramount to her role also as a classroom practitioner. Lindsay is an outstanding teacher, and what she does not know about teaching is not worth knowing. Her skill and leadership is also used to build excellence across the Trust, where Lindsay was selected by the Trust to complete Bridge Academy Trust reviews across other secondary schools. Lindsay is an exceptional leader, and is this year mentoring new Heads of Departments within her faculty areas to develop the leaders of the future.

We thank Lindsay for all that she does for our students and our school.





Sports Roundup

This term has seen Notley participating in a large number of sporting events, with several students taking part. We have been a part of District and Essex Cup Football matches, from U13 girls all the way through to U16 Boys. We have taken part in the North West Essex Netball Tournament and Cross Country meet, along with District Basketball and upcoming indoor Cricket tournaments.

Football

The U13 girls football team (above) have reached the quarter finals of the Essex Cup with a fantastic win against Brentwood School. The game was 0-0 after full time and went straight to penalties where we won 4-3, successfully scoring all of our penalties. A great team effort from all.

Good luck in the quarter finals girls!

The U14 girls football team are through to the second round of the Essex Cup after beating Alec Hunter 3-1. The girls played brilliantly, with the defence being compact and pressurising Alec. A great performance from the girls.

The girls face Great Baddow High School in the next round of the cup.



The Year 8 Boys football (above) won the first 3 matches in the Essex Cup, coming up against some good competition. They beat Moulsham 3-2, followed by a win against Colne Community College 3-1. Unfortunately, the boys then got knocked out of the Cup by Joyce Frankland; coming back in the second half, however, was too much of a feat. Well done for getting so far boys.

The Year 10 Football team have had a fantastic start to the year. They were a part of the National Cup which is a huge accomplishment; and they got through to the second round of the Essex Cup, unfortunately being knocked out after a 4-2 loss. The boys have come from strength to strength – this will be a team to watch in the future.

The Year 11 Boys Football team have reached the second round of the Essex Cup by beating Alec Hunter 3-0 in the first round. The boys have worked really hard and have been committed to their training shows. This has obviously shown on the pitch where they are working really well as a team.

Netball

The U16 Netball team took part in the North West Essex tournament held at Felsted School. These girls have committed to training every week and this was the first time some of them have ever played together. Although we did not get through, the girls improved as the tournament progressed and their continued effort and enthusiasm for the game shone throughout.

Basketball

Notley was invited to participate in the North West Essex Basketball tournament, with year group teams playing against 6 other schools over a 3 hour contest.

All of our teams performed well, and showed some excellent improvement since last year.

Both Year 7 and Year 8 qualified for a spot in the finals, where they narrowly missed out and were awarded 2nd place. Well done to all involved, some fantastic performances.

Cross Country

Notley participated in the North West Essex Cross Country Championships which was hosted at Tabor. We had a strong team who had practiced for their places in PE lessons. Notley performed brilliantly, achieving 3rd place for the Junior Boys (Year 8/9) and 2nd place for the Inter Girls (Year 10). A great performance by all who participated.



"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take"



"Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard"



Charity



To make the world a better place for everyone, we all need to play our part in whatever way we can. As a school, we encourage volunteering as part of our Notley Pledge Passport and our Notley Award. We also encourage our young people to be kind to visitors and each other. As a community, we can also make a huge difference to the lives of others by donating to charity.

October 2022

To begin our Charity work for this academic year, we choose the charity of Great Ormond Street. This Charity is so close to the lives of so many of our staff, students and those within the community.

PROUD

Twelve weeks early you showed your face,
Taken from the womb in haste.
We held you close wrapped in a shawl,
Scared to move, you were so small.

Ten days later you gave us a fright,
'Pneumonia' they told us late one night.
You were so strong and pulled right through,
With some help from all the crew.

A hole in your heart made us worry,
Great Ormond Street scanned in a hurry.
The hole was small and not too bad,
No reason for us to keep being sad.

All the staff were so very kind,
Loads of questions, they didn't mind.
You touched some hearts, we could tell,
As you smiled whilst going through hell.

With all this love we thought we'd burst,
As we relaxed and got over the worst.
Emotions ran like a fairground ride,
But nothing made us lose our pride!

One of our parents contacted us, with a beautiful poem that they wrote for their son who was born at 28 weeks.

"The team at Great Ormond Street were fantastic, they were so supportive, I always had a nurse with me to explain what they were doing and to keep me calm. I can't praise them or Whipps Cross neonatal team enough."

To raise money for this wonderful charity, we ran a House Competition to see which House could raise the most individual sponsors for the 'Kilometres to Pounds' challenge.

Turing were victorious, with a total of 44 different sponsors. What this competition taught us, is the value of community. In our community, we support charities how we can. It is not about what we can afford, but how we can promote the act of giving.

In total, our students raised £1750 for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

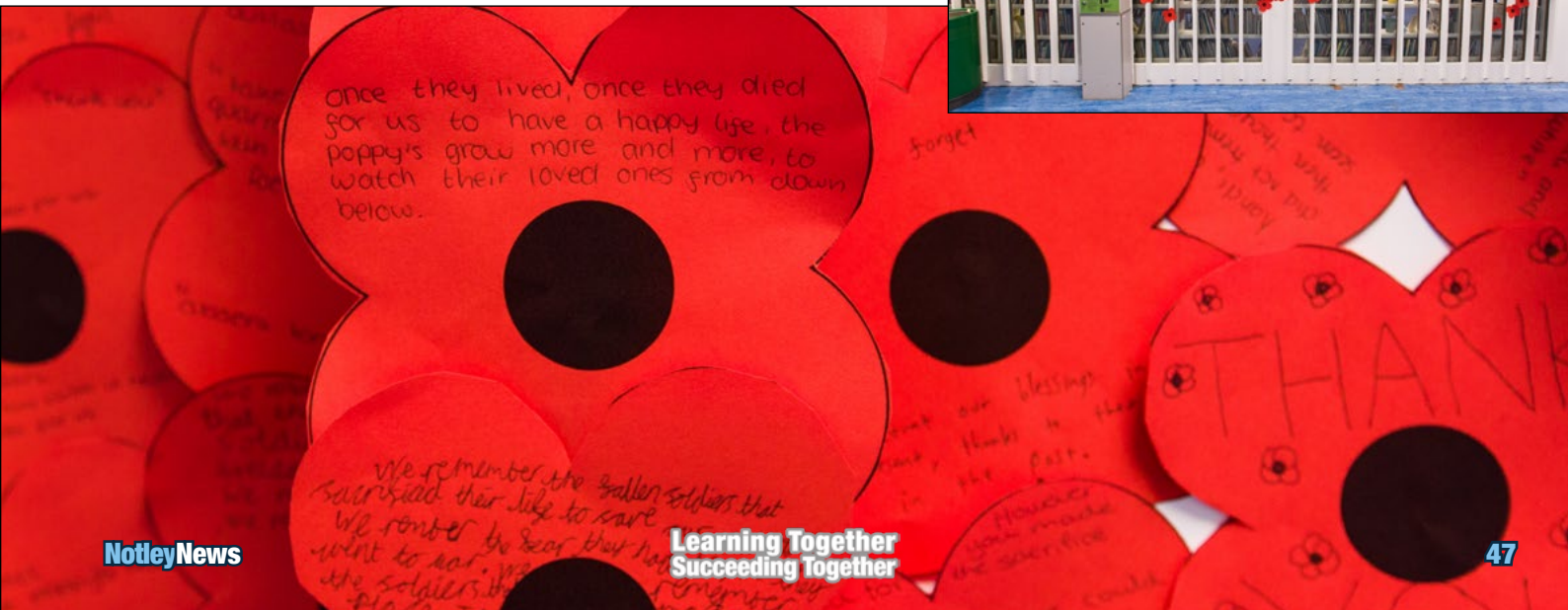
Miss M Gladen



Remembrance Day

To mark Remembrance Day this year, each student wrote a poem on a poppy which formed part of a whole school display 'The Cascade of Poppies'. Students were given the opportunity to reflect upon their own thoughts and feelings around Remembrance, and study war poetry in preparation for the task. It was a real honour to watch students mark remembrance in their own words. A very thought provoking and humbling experience.

Remembrance is such a significant date for us all, and it is so important that we remember the fallen heroes. Remembrance Day, also known as Armistice Day, takes place each year to remember all the people who have died in wars. As a community, we wanted to offer our support to the Royal British Legion and thus two of our prefects, Lucy Chilver and Sophie Carpenter, spent their time selling poppies at break time.





November 2022

'Can you Stomach It?', Notley High School and Braintree Sixth Forms own nod to I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!

Like the students, all our staff are part of the school House system, and doing so, they compete to raise points for their House.

Round one was a modest Spam smoothie with a crunchy cricket top. Round two, saw an entree of tinned snails, followed swiftly on with raw octopus and fermented cabbage. Other rounds included lumpfish eggs, pickled raw herring, locusts and meal worms.

For dessert, a crunchy cricket Angel slice, followed by snail slime wine. Students were left roaring with laughter, and staff were left retching with despair. Three Houses stood victorious! Winton, Parks and Turing. Congratulations to Mr Buttle, Miss Clifton-Ward and Mrs Cheung. The trio quite frankly didn't stop eating, and as lunch had drawn to a close so too did the House competition.

A huge thank you to everyone who came to support and especially to those that took part. All money raised will be split between the three House charities.





November 2022

Within our form groups, we collected gifts, toys and supplies to fill shoe boxes as part of the 'Shoe Box Appeal' by the Teams4U charity. This charitable organisation sends wrapped shoe boxes to children in need across Eastern Europe. It is a wonderful charity, that brightens the lives of the most deprived children. Christmas after all, is about charity and giving. We learnt about the act of community, and how we need to support and care for each other, that we are one World and community extends further than just our closest town.

BBC Children in Need

For BBC Children in Need, we held a non-uniform event. Students were invited to come in their casual attire but were encouraged to wear spots. The theme for this year, was after all, Spotacular! Non-uniform is always a fun way to raise money for charity. Children in Need is a charity close to every school's heart.

This charity, like Notley High School and Braintree Sixth Form, believe that every child should have the chance to thrive and be the best that they can be.

Month	Charity	Event	Total
October 2022	Great Ormond Street Hospital	'Kilometres for Pounds' race. House competition.	£1750
November 2022	Teams4U	Shoebox Appeal	13 boxes
November 2022	Royal British Legion	Selling poppies	TBC
November 2022	Children in Need	Non-Uniform Day	£780
November 2022	House Charity 'Can you Stomach It?'	Staff House Competition.	£90
December 2022	Save the Children	Christmas Jumper Day	£45



Braintree Sixth Form Open Evening

On Wednesday 9 November, Braintree Sixth form welcomed prospective Year 12 students and their families into the Sixth Form for the evening to meet our experienced teachers and fantastic team of students and discover why our Sixth Form is an excellent choice to further their education.

The recent hard work of staff and students to refresh and update the Sixth Form environment was very evident. The wide range of subjects on offer at the Sixth Form were showcased. Staff and current students were on hand for every subject to answer any questions and explain the benefits and demands of studying that subject.

It was very pleasing to read the feedback, with many people attending commenting on how welcoming, friendly, and supportive all the staff and students were. Some of the comments were:

*'Very informative.
Teachers have vast knowledge and enthusiasm.'*

*'Staff were really enthusiastic.
Very informative and friendly'*

'A great sense of community, very enthusiastic students. Very impressed, thank you.'

The team of students representing the Sixth Form were an absolute credit to us and we are very proud of them and grateful for the time they gave. We hope that they all enjoy the pizza lunch that will be provided for them as a thank you. The students were engaging, articulate and enthusiastic in speaking about the Sixth Form, their subjects, their teachers, and the support offered at the sixth form.

The post-16 provision at the Sixth Form includes a wide range A-level and Level 3 BTEC courses for students who would like to continue their studies on a traditionally academic pathway or a more practical approach to learning; or even a combination of the two. There is also the opportunity to take the EPQ.

The prospective students and parents/carers also had the opportunity to book into a presentation to hear in more detail everything the Sixth Form has to offer. They were informed that the main priority at the Sixth Form is that the students are happy and successful. We honestly believe that students will achieve far more if they are in an environment in which they are happy, known and valued. Braintree Sixth Form is a welcoming community for all students, and a Sixth form that cares about every student.

A particular strength of the Sixth form is the pastoral support that is offered. Whilst we know that students coming out of Year 11 are keen to enjoy more autonomy and independence, we also know that they still require support and guidance. There is a large team in the Sixth Form to offer that support, including a team of 12 experienced tutors who meet with each student individually at least once a half term to check how they are doing, monitor their progress and help them set targets to achieve their goals.

They were also informed of the high and continually improving outcomes achieved by our students and they had to chance to see the wall of fame of past students which now sits proudly in the entrance way.

Alongside the academic gains made by our students, they are also equipped with a range of skills and competencies such as resilience, independence, and professionalism that prepare them for success in the wider world, and this was clear in the students representing the Sixth Form on the evening.

In addition to their academic studies, our Sixth Form provides students with a wide range of opportunities to be involved in all aspects of student life. Many of our students enjoy taking an active role in the student council, the sixth form prefect team, being

a mental health ambassador, a student mentor or taking advantage of the plethora of enrichment activities we have on offer. We always have new opportunities developing and this year we were excited to be able to showcase our new partnership with Tottenham Hotspur to offer a programme of study that combines academic study with playing football. In addition, staff were available to inform new students of the opportunity they would have to take part in the World Challenge.

We are extremely proud of all past and current students who have attended Braintree Sixth Form and we are excited to welcome the next cohort and support them on their journey. We are confident that students will feel welcome and part of a family, and they will leave Braintree Sixth Form as a well-rounded individual, with academic success, feeling prepared for their next steps and with some lasting memories.

If anyone would like more information regarding the Sixth Form, please visit the website www.braintreesixthform.com or contact Melissa Arthur via email to arrange a time to visit. melissa.arthur@braintreesixthform.com

Mrs Alex Brewis-Shephard

Gold Alex

During the summer I was accepted into the University of Cambridge's Summer School Residential for a week of studying and experiencing Law at a higher level. We engaged with various Oxbridge Alumni and attended many seminars and lectures breaking down the different elements of law. It was a fantastic experience that completely changed my perspective on attending prestigious Universities coming from a state school.

In the future I would like to graduate with a law degree and become a practising barrister. I'd also like to attend a Russell Group University which I'm working towards; I currently have a few offers and a Cambridge interview. Braintree Sixth form has done a lot in ensuring I have all the support I

need in my studies. Coming from a bigger school in London and transitioning into a smaller one was not easy at first but both teachers and students create a welcoming environment.

What I've learnt, especially from attending this school, is that hard work is integral in achieving your goals. Having goals outside academia is also good for balancing school life and a social life. My external interest in fashion led me to launch a successful Clothing brand this September whilst also achieving my A*A*A predicted grades. Academia and fashion may seem like they contrast a lot at first, but many of the skills learn in class helped me organise and plan my brand to the best of my ability.



SocialMedia

Below are the official social media sites for Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form. Please be aware that any other social media sites are not related to the school.

Notley High School

Facebook:

- Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form
- Ski Notley
- Prom Notley

Twitter:

- Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form

Instagram:

- NotleyHighSchool

Braintree Sixth Form

Facebook:

- Braintree Sixth Form

Twitter:

- Braintree Sixth Form

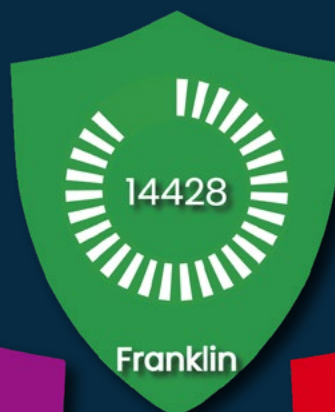
Instagram:

- Braintree Sixth Form

Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form is not responsible for the content of any social media accounts used by people following our official accounts.

HousePoints

Notley's house competition runs across the entire academic year, with students earning points from a wide range of activities and achievements. These are the running totals for the year.



Notley High School & Braintree Sixth Form

Academic Year 2022 - 2023

September 2022							October 2022							November 2022							December 2022							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
			1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		
							31																					
January 2023							February 2023							March 2023							April 2023							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
30	31																											
May 2023							June 2023							July 2023							August 2023							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				
														31														

- = Schooldays
- = School holidays
- = Bank holidays
- = Weekends
- = Non-Student Days

Autumn Term:	Thursday 1 September 2022 – Tuesday 20 December 2022 <i>Half Term 24 October – 28 October</i>	74 days
Spring Term:	Thursday 5 January 2023 – Friday 31 March 2023 <i>Half Term 13 February - 17 February</i>	57 days
Summer Term:	Monday 17 April 2023 – Thursday 20 July 2023 <i>Half Term 29 May – 2 June, and May Bank Holiday - 1 May & 8 May</i>	64 days
		195 days



**Notley High School
& Braithree Sixth Form**

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