

De La Salle Download



Christmas Edition 2021



Headteacher's Message - December 2021

Welcome to the latest edition of the De La Salle Download, our termly update on all things DLS. Here you will find articles on the amazing work our students and staff have been involved in since September 2021. On reading through, I'm sure you will agree that even with the pressures of the ongoing pandemic, the term has been packed with events and enrichment activities for the benefit of our community.

I continue to be impressed with the exemplary attitudes to learning displayed by the students. I thank all stakeholders; students, parents, staff and governors for all the support shown in difficult times which has continued to allow students to flourish.

Year 7 have established themselves as keen and confident learners. Our Year 11 have been busy preparing for their final examinations and have recently received their first Mock Exam results. I urge parents of Year 11 to spend some time over the Christmas holidays discussing these results, many of which require celebration. For some, additional time for revision and encouragement to study at home will also be of great benefit.

As we await further information on the new Covid-19 variant, Omicron, I hope that we are able to continue operating as normal in the coming weeks and months. As new information becomes available I will, of course, continue to update our community on any implications to our daily operation.

I hope you enjoy catching up on some of the events of this term included in this edition of the De La Salle Download. I look forward to welcoming students back to school in January 2022. Please remember that there will be a staggered return for all students to allow us to undertake asymptomatic testing of all students onsite before returning to our normal timetable. This information has been shared in a separate letter.

I hope you have a wonderful Christmas and are able to enjoy some family time over the next few weeks. With every best wish for 2022.

Mr. P. Norris

De La Salle Christmas Tree

As part of the traditions of Christmas, Year 7 Technology students have been very busy creating colourful decorations to decorate the school Christmas tree. Students learnt creative ways of using a simple, everyday material to create intricate designs which have been hung all over the branches.

Well done Year 7, it looks beautiful.

Mrs. A. Ansary - Teacher of Technology



De La Salle Chaplaincy and Catholic Life

Serving God by serving others

Welcome to the Chaplaincy pages of our 'Download'.

We began the academic year with a staff Mass. Our thanks to Fr. Martin Hardy PP of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Grays and Dean of South Essex (*the deanery covers the parishes of Basildon, Grays, South Ockendon, Tilbury and Stanford Le Hope*) who celebrated our Mass.

At this Mass, teaching staff and support staff renewed their commitment to teaching and support work.

Goodbye/Hello

In the Summer we said goodbye to Father Daniel Kelly and Father Rick Fernandez who had been ministering in our school. In September we welcomed Fr Sabu Paryidan, Fr Saggi and Fr David Pearce who has special responsibility to our school.

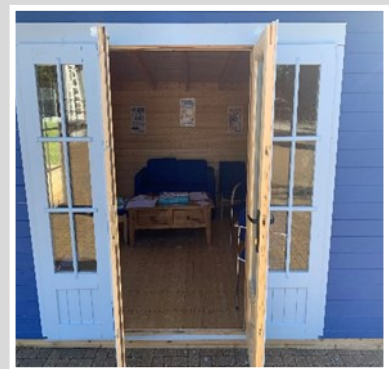
Chaplaincy Hub

In September we opened our Chaplaincy hub. Based in the centre of the of playground between the canteen and the upper playground, it is a hive of activity of a break time and lunch time, every day.

It's a space where our young people can come and 'chill' chat, create some art and craft, play games such as Jenga, Connect 4, and chess/draughts and hire out football and basketballs.

It is accessed by between 15 and 25 young people every day and not only does the chaplain help organise the activities so do the chaplaincy team; Lasallian Ambassadors and Student Leadership.

During October, among the activities was completing the Zen wheel during the Lasallian Month of Peace. During November we inaugurated a pebble project of remembrance to be paced by one of the trees by Humanities and during December our hub team helped create, along with the Art Department and the Library Team, paper chains to go on the Christmas Tree.



Year 7 Welcome Mass and Commissioning of Student Leadership Team

In September we welcomed the Class of 2021 and on the 23rd September we celebrated our Welcome Mass with Fr Sabu and Fr David. At this Mass we also commissioned our Student Leadership Team and prefect team. Headed by Rebecca (Head Girl) and Roman (Head Boy) and their



deputies and 45 Prefects; they have duties around the school; help out at functions and represent the School. To get their positions they had to complete an application form and be interviewed.

School Retreats

Year 11

At the end of September Year 11 had their retreat day; entitled 'You are God's Work of Art', they had a day spent in discussion and reflection on the theme. Led by our Chaplain Doug, we began in prayer and then moved on to discussing how we use filters to often disguise ourselves from being the true person God wants us to be. Later on in the morning based on the Easter story of Emmaus; our young people went off to find the Christ in the person they were paired with. Finally, there was a chance if people wanted it to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



Year 7

In November, our diocesan youth retreat team came into School to lead our Year 7 retreat. Their theme was 'Although many, we are one'. The day saw them engage in games, conversations, a task and prayer. Some of the reflections from the young people;

I enjoyed the meditation and calm; everyone working together; making the posters. Didn't like when it ended as it was great... to name but a few.

Harvest

Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's harvest appeal. The proceeds went to local parish food bank and Anchor House.

October ~ The month of the Rosary

As is traditional in October here at DLS, Year 7 students have a lesson on the Rosary and before our voluntary Mass the Rosary was said.

Fund raising

Thanks to everyone who participated in raising money for Breast Cancer awareness; Young Minds and Give Racism the red card on 21st October. We managed to raise £389.00

Remembrance Mass



On 10th November, we celebrated our School's remembrance Mass for past students and staff and close relatives who have gone to their eternal reward marked with the sign of Faith. Our thanks go to Fr Sabu and Fr Saji for concelebrating our Mass. During it, we blessed our new book of remembrance, which now resides in the chapel.

It was lovely to have a social after the Mass in the school canteen.

If anybody has any further names they wish to add, with dates please email our chaplain at Chaplaincy@dlsbasildon.org

Anti Bullying week ~ 15th – 19th November ~ Odd Socks Day 15th Nov

On Monday 15th November, we took part in wearing odd socks for the beginning of Anti Bullying week.

World Youth Sunday

Thanks to James and Maeva, two of our Year 11 students who spoke during both Masses at Holy Trinity Church on World Youth Sunday on 21st November the Solemnity Feast of Christ the Universal King on behalf of the Brentwood Diocesan Catholic Youth Service.

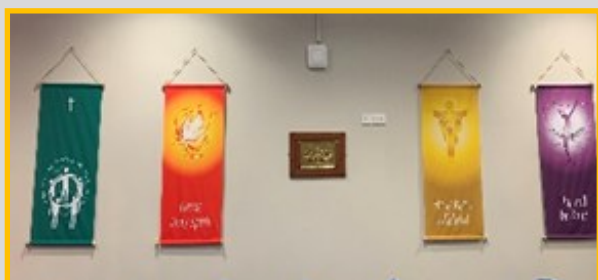


Red Wednesday

On Wednesday 24th, we raised awareness by wearing Red for Red Wednesday highlighting the plight of Christians unable to express or practice their faith as openly as we can.

New Banners

During this term, we completed our set of Liturgical Banners for the Chapel reflecting the Liturgical Year and lectern banners.



Advent and Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Ordinary Time. One of our lectern banners

Friday Morning Voluntary Mass

Our Voluntary Mass on a Friday Morning at 8.20am goes from strength to strength. We have now introduced that the intentions of the Mass are for one of the forms each week.

The Mass is open to all students and Staff. Our thanks to Fr David who comes in each week to celebrate Mass with us.

End of Term Advent Mass

We celebrated our End of Term Advent Mass on Wednesday 8th December and it was streamed live via the Parish Website. My thanks to Rebecca, James Jillo. Tami, Adria, Codie and Lucky who performed the ministries that evening. Once again our thanks to Fr David for celebrating this for us.



Mr. D. Mongan - School Chaplain

[Our Advent/Christmas Prayer](#)

*Let us pray,
This Advent-time
we remember Mary and Joseph,
giving thanks for their faithfulness,
courage and obedience,
stepping out into the unknown
in the strength of your Spirit,
playing their part
in the fulfilment of your plan
to bring your prodigal people
home again.*

*We pray that their example
might be the pattern of our lives,
that when your gentle whisper
breaks through the clamour of this world
and into our small corner,
we might be ready to listen,
and having listened, to act.
We make our prayer through Christ our Lord
Amen*



Mental Health Creative Arts Competition

This year during Mental Health Week, students were encouraged to express themselves through the Creative Arts subjects by taking part in a competition. The main focus of this was to communicate their ideas, experiences and emotions caused by the Lockdown and Covid restrictions.

There was an excellent response and some very emotive work submitted. Judging was very difficult as the creativity and courage of some of the work was outstanding.



An exhibition of all the work was on display to celebrate the creativity of our students.

Well done to everyone who participated, fantastic work!

Mrs. A. Ansary - Teacher of Photography



Christmas Book Review - Christmas 2021

First of all, may I take this opportunity to wish everyone an incredibly Merry Christmas! Here's hoping that this year we can all spend time with loved ones – and can look forward to 2022.

My recommendation this term is 'Loser', by Paul Orton, a thriller aimed at 13-15 year-old boys – but I really enjoyed it! It is the first in a series, which attracted me; I read series of book like other people watch soap operas. It will appeal to those who aspire to use their IT knowledge either to cause mayhem, or to do some good. Because the protagonist, Ryan, is a hacker who delights in pitting his wits against the strongest cyber security imaginable. In this instance, the Ministry of Defence Secure system. Within minutes, (and this could sound predictable but it isn't) uninvited guests have arrived. And they don't bother ringing the doorbell, either.

Despite his youth, in the absence of his parents, Ryan is arrested, and finds himself in a very hostile environment, where it seems his skills are to both punished and fine-honed by specialists. In this way, the talents of Ryan and his fellow 'students' are to be monitored and also utilised.

I found Ryan's reactions fascinating throughout the novel, in terms of how his values adjust and respond to this new experience – and how he uses his intellect to outwit those who conspire against him and his new friends.

I loved this – strongly recommend it. Can't wait for the second book!

Mrs. A. Smith
One to one English Tutor



Library News

The start of the new academic year saw the library open to students again after a very long year of bubbles and how wonderful it was to welcome them back.

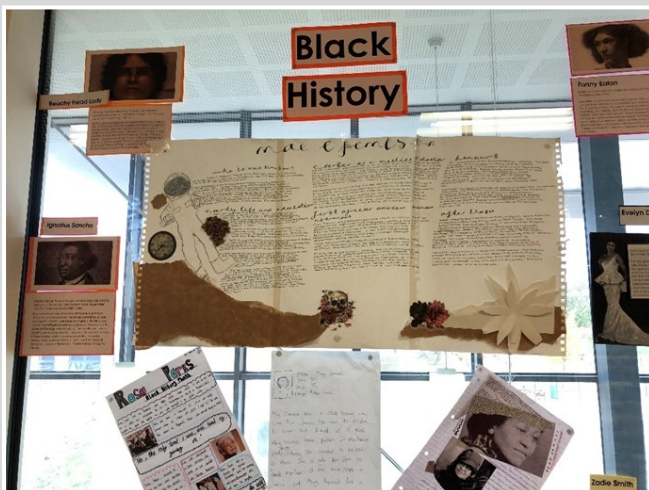
There has been one major change with Mrs Kellett retiring after thirty years of service to the school, the staff and the students, she is dearly missed. I am delighted to have had the baton passed from such a wonderful role model.

September saw applications from KS3 students for the role of Library Leaders. This was very successful and some of them can be seen here having just received their badges from our Deputy Head girl (far left, middle row).



We have already had our first meeting and the Library Leaders have completed their first task which was a survey of all KS3 form groups on what genre of books are most widely liked and read. This will enable me to target my small budget to books that the students have most shown an interest in.

October saw Black History Month being celebrated in school. Some outstanding entries by students were received for the competition organised by the History department. These were showcased in the library.



We have also been fortunate to have art work on display in the library that was completed by Year 8 students. Some of their interpretations of St Paul's Cathedral can be seen here; a montage of different colours and shapes skilfully put together.



In November, we remembered the fallen with Remembrance Day and a display in the library representing all the faiths and those with none that have given their lives so that we may live freely. There was also a quiz that students could do that helped to raise their awareness of what Remembrance Day is all about; why we have central memorials, where the Cenotaph is, who designed it, what is it made of etc. and a poetry competition. We must ensure the next generation do not forget.



Our next celebratory event in the library is Advent and then the Christmas holidays that are fast approaching. The library is open for students at the start of the day before registration, at break and lunch times for studying, reading and borrowing and returning books and after school on Monday to Thursday for homework club. There is also a scrabble club every Friday lunchtime.

Mrs. C. Kiggins-Burns - Librarian

Science Club Fun with Oobleck

KS3 Science club has been busy this term making rockets, colouring with electricity, writing with fire, making volcanoes, making luminous oobleck and understanding the science of fireworks. If you are in Year 7 or Year 8 you can join the fun on Thursdays after school.

A KS4 STEM club is up and running too so if you are interested in science and technology and you are in Years 9, 10 or 11 collect a letter from the science department.

Dr. M. Keown - Teacher of Science



Colouring with electricity



Year 7

What a fantastic transition every student has made into their secondary school experience here at De La Salle. It has been an absolute pleasure to see how well they adapted and applied themselves so quickly and have settled into Secondary School life. From seeing the nervous faces at Summer school, it was then fantastic to see them looking smart in their uniforms with smiles on their faces looking forward to the journey ahead and meeting their new classmates and making new friends.

With these testing times, I could not be prouder of how well the year group have applied themselves in class and adhered to the measures in place to keep themselves, their friends and their families safe. They worked extremely hard during the first half term, in particular during the first two weeks of assessments. This provided the opportunity to set the students and help provide a more suitable and comfortable learning environment for them to flourish and fulfil their potential. Again, I was extremely proud of the way in which they approached this and it was evident to see when visiting lessons, the students were happy and engaged in their learning.

My wish is for every student to feel happy and confident as they flourish in our Lasallian community and as Head of Year 7 I am extremely proud of how our journey has begun and I am full of enthusiasm and hope for the future.

As a group, we will continue to be optimistic, maintain a positive attitude and mindset and continue to work together to be the very best version of ourselves.

Best wishes, Ms. C. Quigley - Head of Year 7

Starting Secondary School!



PE Department

It has been so good getting back to normal in PE, returning to training and fixtures. Participation to extra-curricular clubs has been outstanding. Remember to check your year group PE Google classroom page to view the extra-curricular timetable. Every Monday the fixtures are uploaded for the week.

Here is an overview on what has been happening since September:



Year 7 girls and boys Basildon district Basketball tournaments
Year 7-11 netball Basildon district leagues
U14 and U16 netball Basildon district tournaments
U14 and U16 GIRLS Netball Essex cup competition
Year 7-11 football Basildon district league
Year 7-11 Basildon district cross country competition
Basildon rugby club coaching sessions year 7 and 8
U13 girls football tournament
Year 7-9 Basildon district rugby tournaments
Year 8 interform dodgeball and basketball competitions
Year 7 captains have been selected
Year 7 and 8 Gifted and Talented/Sporting Stars students have been selected



Well done to all the students who have participated

Next half term there will be:

The Basildon district swimming gala
The Basildon District gymnastics competition
Year 7 and 8 Basildon district netball rallies
Continuation of the basketball, netball and football leagues for all years
U13 and U15 Basildon District girls football tournament

De La Salle PE Department Sport Captains

Name	Sport	Year Groups
Grace	Netball	7
Connie	Girls Football	7
Reggie	Boys Football	7
Leona	Girls Basketball	7
Reef	Boys Basketball	7
Ashley	Girls Cross Country	7
Freddie	Boys Cross country	7
Ronnie	Rugby	7

Name	Sport	Year Groups
Angel	Netball	8
Olivia	Girls Football	8
Tristan	Boys Football	8
Tobu	Girls Basketball	8
Tommy-Lee	Boys Basketball	8
Ashley	Girls Cross Country	8
Mikey	Boys Cross country	8
Kenzie	Rugby	8

Name	Sport	Year Groups
Aituajie	Netball	9
Abi	Girls Football	9
Kingsley	Boys Football	9
Isabel	Girls Basketball	9
Wisdom	Boys Basketball	9
Katelyn	Girls Cross Country	9
Jack	Boys Cross country	9

Name	Sport	Year Groups
Cydney	Netball	Year 10
Tilly	Netball	Year 11
Selina	Girls Football	Year 10
Jaiden	Boys Football	Seniors
Princess	Girls Basketball	U16
Prince	Boys Basketball	seniors
Amy	Girls Cross Country	Seniors
Aaron	Boys Cross country	Seniors

U13 Basildon Girls District Football Tournament

The girls were invited to a tournament at Beauchamps High school to play on their 3G pitch. They played amazingly well and came 3rd. Well done Girls!

Player of the match: Olivia



Miss. S. Rothwell - Head of PE

Bleep Test/Cross County Results - Top three Boys & Girls

At the start of this academic year students returned to Physical Education by carrying baseline fitness testing. The bleep test and the cross-country course. As you can see below the top three students from Years 7-11 are shown.

A special mention goes to our top three students across all year groups: Connie Year 7, Olivia Year 8 and Amy Year 11 for the girls and Jack Year 9, Omon Year 9 and Aaron Year 10 for the boys.

Year 7		Boys	Girls
	Cross Country	1. Freddie 10.05	1. Connie 11.45
		2. Daniel10.26	2.Briana 13.35
		3. Oscar 10.28	3. Nifemi 13.51
	Bleep Test	1. Liam 11.0	1. Connie 9.4
		2. Ricky 8.0	2. Nifemi 7.3
3. Archie 7.10		3.Emma / Grace 6.7	
Year 8		Boys	Girls
	Cross Country	1. Callum 8.48	1. Ashley – 10.11
		2. Tristan 9.11	2. Brooke – 11.08
		3. Bobby 9.15	3. Abigail – 11.23
	Bleep Test	1. Tristan 10.3	1. Olivia 8.9
		2. Ronny 9.8	2. Ashley 8.5
3. Mikey 8.5		3. Amelia 7.10	
Year 9		Boys	Girls
	Cross Country	1. Jack 10.17	1. Katelyn 14.33
		2. Omonfuma 11.10	2. Millee 16.47
		3. Armandas 12.46	3. Bailey-Rae /Shami 17.03
	Bleep Test	1. Jack 13.2	1. Katelyn 8.3
		2. Omon 12.3	2. Millee 8.1
3. Kingsley 11.2		3. Bobbie-Jo 7.8	
Year 10		Boys	Girls
	Bleep Test	1. Aaron 12.1	1. Keira 8.5
		2. Thomas 11.1	2. Jessica 7.8
		3. Charlie Taylor 10.9	3. Lana 7.6
Year 11		Boys	Girls
	Bleep Test	1. Tyler 11.2	1. Amy 8.5
		2. Prince 10.2	2. Joanne 7.8
		3. Eromosele 9.9	3. Franceska 6.4

KS3 Cross Country Lessons

Students who performed well in the De La Salle Cross country course have been going off site to Gloucester park and participating in running sessions with Mr Brinklow and myself. The sessions have been fun but very challenging. Students have been using their local park to improve their cardiovascular fitness and muscular endurance, in the hope to be selected for the De La Salle Cross country team. Each session has totalled up to 2 miles, over the 3 weeks, they have run 12 miles! Along the way we had the privilege of seeing our local wildlife, deer's, squirrels, swans and ducks.

Well done to all that challenged themselves and pushed themselves to their limits!

Miss. S. Rothwell - Head of PE



District Cross Country Competition

On Wednesday 17th November the Basildon District Cross Country event took place over at Gloucester park. After a rigorous selection process both boys and girls had full teams from Year 7-11 representing De La Salle.

Overall as a school we finished a very respectable 5th place out of the 8 schools in the district. A very special mention goes to the following students for finishing inside of the top 10 positions:

Ashley – 9th (Year 8/9 Girls)

Amy – 8th & Keira – 10th (Year 10/11 Girls)

Jack 4th & Omon 9th (Year 8/9 Boys)

A huge congratulations to all individuals who took part in the event and well done for all of the hard work you put in to training in the weeks leading up to the event.



Football

The PE Department would like to congratulate Tyler in Year 11 for making it through the 2nd round of the Essex football trials U16 age group. After successfully making it through round 1 Tyler narrowly missed out on making the final 16 selection in what was a highly competitive trial. Well done Tyler a great achievement!

Player of the Matches – Boys Fixtures

Well done to the following boys who have been recognised by Mr Conway and myself as the players of the match

Football Fixtures:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Seniors
Basildon Academy	TBC	Collins	TBC	TBC
Bromfords	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Beauchamps	TBC	TBC	Kingsley	Billy
James Hornsby	Archie	Tristan	Jack Kirwin	TBC
Mayflower	Will Cross	Collins	TBC	Charlie
Billericay	Deivydass	Collins	Omon	TBC
Woodlands	TBC	TBC	Omon	TBC

Year 7 Basketball Tournament Boys & Girls

Both Year 7 boys and girls had their first experience of school basketball when they represented DLS at Bromford School for a basketball tournament. The girl's tournament was on Wednesday 10th November, the girls did incredibly well finishing a very respectable 3rd place. A great team performance saw them win their final game to claim 3rd spot.

The Year 7 boys' tournament was on Friday 12th November. Again, this was the first time they had played together as a basketball team. Out of the 5 schools there the boys did well to win the whole tournament and go unbeaten. They drew one match and won the other three.

Both boys and girls should be very proud of themselves for not only competing but finishing in the positions they did. Well done to all involved. It would be fantastic if we can see you all at basketball training on a regular basis.

Mr. M. Brinklow—Teacher of PE



Year 8 Interform Competition

At the end of last half term, we started the Interform competition with Year 8. The first sport we did was Dodgeball. This was very well attended with over 60 students taking part. Their form tutors were also asked to come up and support them as well and every teacher did, which was fantastic to see.

It was a very closely fought competition and the winners were 8M. Well done to them!

The next sport is Basketball and the competition will take place towards the end of Autumn term

Netball results so far this year

The girls have been playing both league and Essex Cup matches this year so far. There have been some excellent performances from the girls in both competitions. After each match the opposing team chooses a player of the match from our team. Below are the results and the players of the match so far this season:

League Results and Player of the Match

School	Result			
	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Mayflower		Lost 10-27	Lost 14-19	
Billericay		Lost 10-12	Lost 6-21	Lost 6-21
Beauchamps			Won 19-7	Lost 4-19
Bromfords	Won 12-5	Won 22-2		Won 26-6

School	Player of the Match			
	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Mayflower		Aituajie	Cydney	
Billericay		Aituajie	Cydney	Megan
Beauchamps			Beatrice	Mega
Bromfords	Mirabella	Macie-Mae		Cydney

Essex Cup Update

The U14 and U16 girls have also been competing in the Essex cup. Both year groups have done very well.

U16

The U16 girls got through to the 2nd round but were beaten unfortunately by Eastwood 24-27. Well done to Megan for being player of the match. It was such a close match and the girls were very unlucky to go through.

U14

The U14 team are currently on a very successful run in this competition and have had two very convincing wins. They beat William Edwards 23-7 and Greensward School 21-10. Well done to Macie-Mae and Cherelle for being players of the match in these fixtures. Getting through to the last 16 of this competition is the furthest we have ever got - congratulations girls and good luck in the next round.

Miss. C. Davies - Teacher of PE





Creative Arts Supporting Mental Health and Wellbeing During Lockdown

Engaging with the arts can have a powerful and lasting effect on health. It can help to protect against a range of mental health conditions, help manage mental ill health and support recovery.

For some people, Lockdown has had a negative effect on mental health and wellbeing. Many students and adults have felt isolated and lonely, cut off from the familiar surroundings of school life and the social interaction with friends. The impact of this can be seen as life is starting to go back to some kind of normality.

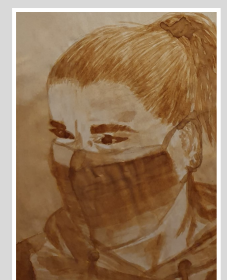
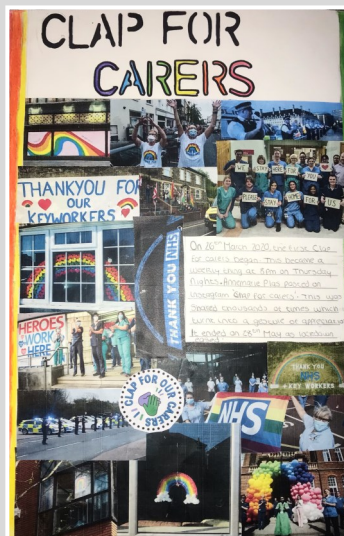
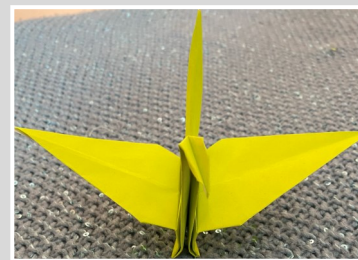
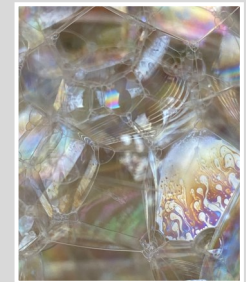
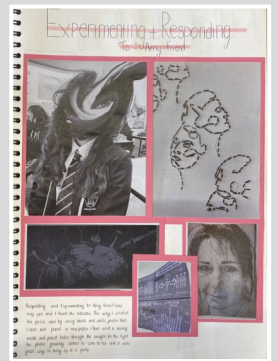
Students have come back into school ready to continue with their education and happy to engage in the familiar routine once more.

After speaking with students about what subjects really helped with their day to day mental health and happiness, it was the creative subjects such as Art, Music, Food Technology, Drama, Photography and Graphics that gave them a welcome break from other subjects and allowed them to come away from their computer screens to allow them to be creative.

There was an amazing amount of creative work submitted during our home learning sessions, some of which we would like to share with you.

Mrs. A. Ansary

Teacher of Photography - Art and Technology



Brilliant Club - Cambridge University Visit

As part of the Brilliant Club, (which selected students in Year 9 are invited to attend), they usually attend a launch event and graduation trip to one of the local universities. Unfortunately due to the pandemic, this wasn't possible last year. Luckily enough for us, we were invited by Emmanuel College Cambridge to experience what life is like at one of the top universities in the world. We have been working with their outreach officer for a couple of years and this seemed a perfect opportunity to reward the excellent efforts of the Brilliant Club students back in the winter and summer term of 2020-21.

Mrs. H. Butler - Assistant Headteacher

On the 8th of November, we left school at 8:25 and made our way to Cambridge. We arrived at Emmanuel College and admired the architecture as we waited for the guide to come and show us where we would do our starter activity. We were asked what we were hoping to gain from our time at Cambridge and what our plans for the future are in terms of education and possible jobs. Then, a student from Emmanuel College, gave us a tour of the college and how it is run. We had a better insight into student life and how the college can tend to everybody's needs. After the tour, we completed another activity and went to lunch and it was delicious! We learnt how to look up information on Cambridge in general and learnt more about the different types of colleges there are. We prepared some questions and had a Q&A with 2nd and 3rd year students. It was really enlightening on the mindset of students in University, because there are very many misconceptions. After the Q&A, we said our thank you and left the college and headed back to school.

Year 10 Student

The trip to Cambridge was well organised and structured. The tour gave a good insight into the institutions at Cambridge, such as places like the library and how the books there could help with study. The college was built to engage students' minds and it was evident through the resources and activities. It was also able to give insight into the events Cambridge had to offer. This was helpful as students could relate their own hobbies to different society's events, for example the Music Society's Concert. One improvement I would make to the trip is access to the classrooms and inside of Cambridge. The Chapel was aesthetically pleasing however it was one of the few indoor areas accessible to the students. It would have enhanced the experience of the tour, though it was all round very satisfying in giving information about Cambridge.

The research and QNA with the students at the college gave insight into life at Cambridge. The QNA was especially helpful by being able to see more specifically what life would be like on a day to day basis by current students. It was also well organised due to the fifteen minute prep held before as this ensured a vast amount of information to be covered. It was also helpful to get an inside perspective as they had a larger knowledge of what each of their specific courses entailed. The research project gave less insight on college life, but gave more advice on things such as costing funds and super curriculum, which was highly appreciated.

Year 10 Student



The Curwen Print Centre



The Curwen Print Centre was established as an educational fine art printmaking charity in the late 1990's by Master Printer Stanley Jones MBE and local entrepreneur and art lover, Sam Olper OBE. The Curwen Print Study Centre has established a centre of excellence in its field since its formation.



The centre is found in the middle of Cambridgeshire in the countryside. The studio is well equipped for workshops in different photography techniques. The presses used were a Columbian Eagle (1837) and subsequent Albion models from the 1860's. All works of art in their own right and all working as well now as then.

The purpose of this visit was to learn about the different printing techniques that could be used to transfer and manipulate images, using photographs that we had taken throughout lockdown in 2020 and 2021.



We started by looking at the different printing process in the studio space and learning how we use them safely. Then we created a test strip to show different ways of creating indents, scratches and mark making and produced a printed example which gave us our first experience of using a real printing press.

Amy J - Year 11



Tate Modern

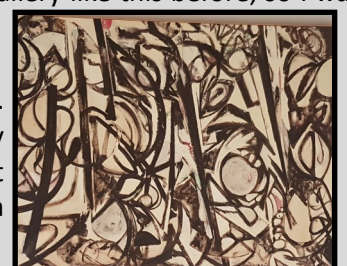
On the 21st October I visited the Tate Modern as part of my coursework. I went on this trip basically blind, only knowing that the Tate Modern was an art gallery. When arriving I found the building was not what I expected it to be. The use of the word 'Modern' made me think that the building would be much more modern than it was. In my opinion, it was much more dated than the surroundings around it. I didn't think it looked much like an art gallery despite not going to one before. I found that the architecture was more traditional, as I found it more old-fashioned and not as modern as I thought it would be. The location of the building was unusual. There were offices



and many restaurants surrounding the building, which I found surprising as it contrasts the subject of the building. From one side of the building however, you could see many of the skyscrapers across the river. I think this made the building seem more a part of London and gave a nice view compared to the restaurants and offices.

When entering the building and getting closer to the 'Turbine Hall' the first thing I saw was what I described to be 'weird balloon things floating around'. They gave a sort of robotic, machinery feel and seemed to be part of a project perhaps. The colours and tones were very black and white and even neutral tones, with no specific colour standing out. When signing in, everything seemed to be in one place and I felt as if I didn't know where to look first. I had never been to a gallery like this before, so I was unsure of where to go or what to expect when looking around the building.

We decided to go right first and work our way up, around and then down to the left. We started in what appeared to be the Blavatnik Building. The walls all seemed very old, almost as if they were going to fall down which is not what I expected. The first place we visited was where the Tanks were first stored from when the building was a power station.



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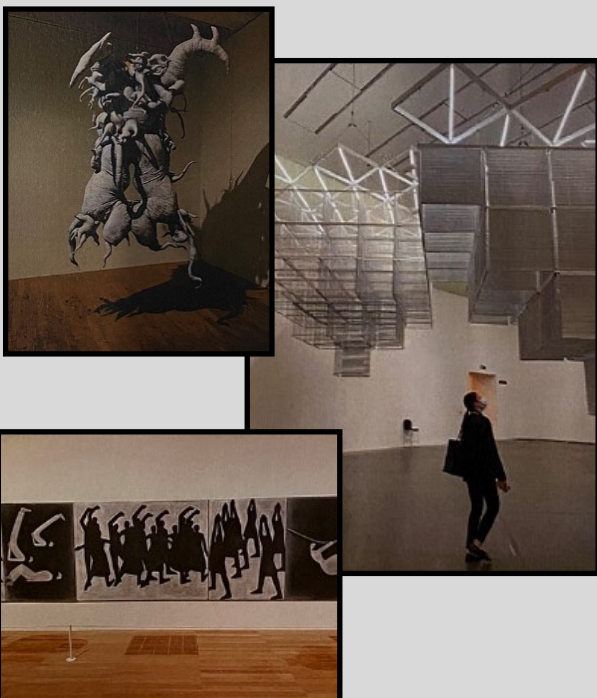
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The building seemed very old and you could tell that it was built many years ago. In a way this gave a more homely feel rather than it being all bright and open, and gave a mysterious feeling to the building itself. When looking throughout the Tate Modern, I found two different sculptures and pieces of work which I found linked in with my projects of disguise. My photography project is currently 'disguise' which helps me link the pieces into my coursework and hopefully gives me inspiration within my own work to create sculptures like the ones I found.

The first one was called 'Untitled' created in the 90's by Peter Fischli and David Weiss. At first glance, the work just looks like stuff. There wasn't a particular thing, except it all looked like work things like building or decorating. After finding out more about the work, I found that all the things making this work were actually not just things, but made up of different materials to create an illusion of it all being real. This portrays disguise as at first glance everything looks real and just placed for the gallery when really it isn't even close to real.

The second piece I found which linked to disguise was called 'Plague Column #2' created in 2016 by Ciprian Muresan. At first glance, this looks just like an abstract sculpture, however looking closer, there are body parts embedded into the surface. This links with disguise because without paying attention to the actual work, you would not be able to see what the work actually is and all the things making the sculpture. The different body parts are the same colour and similar sizes which makes it difficult to see the full perspective.

Amy J - Year 11 student



Remembrance Day

Year 7 English enjoyed a lesson learning about Remembrance Day. The students made poppies out of different coloured paper and wrote their own acrostic poems to show their remembrance.

Miss. A. Hawkes - HLTA English



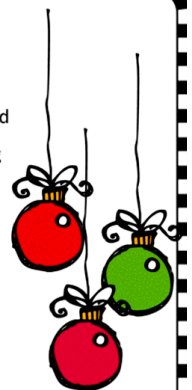
Maths Puzzle

There is a prize for the first person in each year group to return their completed puzzle to Mrs Curtis via the school email: info@dlsbasildon.org, prizes will be given out in the New Year.

Mrs. E. Cutis - HLTA Mathematics

Decorations

Henry and Liza are decorating the Christmas tree.
Henry took half of the decorations out of the box and put them on the tree. Liza took half of the remaining decorations and put them on the tree.
Then there were 3 decorations left.
How many decorations were in the box to begin?



English Department

This has been a busy term for us again. We have had an Author visit in Year 7 and Year 8, a Year 10 trip to see a Christmas Carol and we have also taken part in the BookBuzz event.

The Bookbuzz is a reading programme from BookTrust that aims to help schools inspire a love of reading in 11 to 13-year-olds. Participating schools give their students the opportunity to choose their own book to take home and keep from a list of 17 titles. They are all carefully selected by a panel of experts to ensure quality, suitability and to encourage reading for pleasure.

Our students loved receiving their free books and have even begun swapping them to enjoy a wider variety of stories!

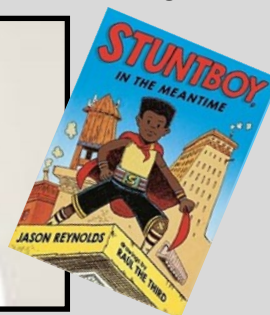
Here are some of our Year 7s and Year 8s with their BookBuzz books!

Here are some of
the titles offered to
students...



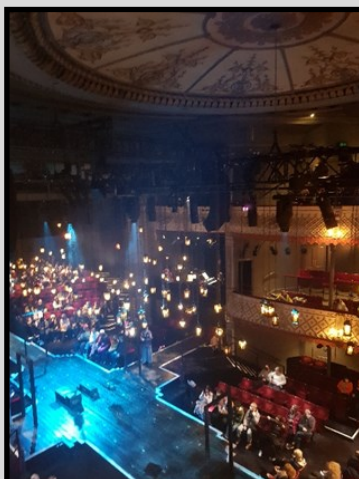
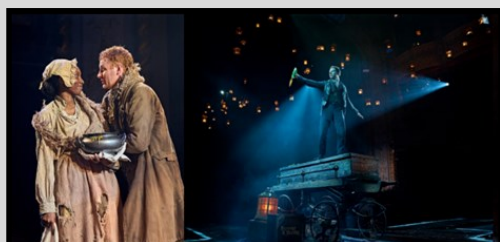
The Year 7s and 8s also loved taking part in our virtual Author visit with Jason Reynolds. Jason is an American author who writes novels and poetry for young adult and secondary aged audiences, including *Stuntboy* about the greatest young superhero you've never heard.

Our Year 8s said they thought Mr. Reynolds was very interesting and liked his writing and illustrating style and some have even ordered the book to read.



On the 30th November, some of our Year 10s visited the Old Victoria Theatre in London to see *A Christmas Carol*. They loved it! Especially the sound and lighting effects the theatre had used, such as the fake snow, which billowed throughout the theatre, really putting us all in the Christmas mood, along with warm mince pies which we could enjoy throughout the performance.

Miss. A. Foster - HTLA English



Mathematics Department

Every fortnight a student from each class is nominated 'Star Pupil' by their class teacher. This shows that they have made a valued contribution to the lesson and are fully engaged in their learning.

Nominations so far are as follows:

Miss Restall

7.1	Olivia	Josie	Alexander
9.6	Archie	Archie	Ore
10.4	Harry	Euan	Chelsea
11.1	Billy	Princess	Prince
10 Statistics	Agne	Alasane	Rebecca



Mr Gondo

7.3	Thomas	Jo	Annie
7.2	Tillie	Reggie	William
7.5	Sabi	Sabina	Ellie
8.1	Lucy-Lou	Tommy-Lee	Anessa
8.4	Kyran	Luke	Keeley
8.6	Luke		Elise



Mrs McCallum

7.4	Hannah	Alexander	River
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Mrs Cook

7.6	Julia	Kelsey	George
9.1	Joel	Hayden	Bliss
10.2	Sophie	Tye	Demi
10.6	Zena	David	Lennon
11.4	Alex	Jibao	Laolu



Mr Badger

8.2	Jamie	Liam	Austin
9.3	Chinedu	Amarah	Marcus
9.5	Bobbie-Jo	Stefano	Harriet
10.5	Kacie	Charlie	
11.3	Jillo		Malachy

Miss Reilly

8.3	Malaki	Bailie	Charlie
8.5	Benjamin	Aaron	Rebecca
9.4	Nathaniel	Maisie	Ryan
10.3	Sayana	Jack	Agne
11.2	Jack	Pius	Roman
11.6	Brad	Isobelle	Mya



Mrs Harrison

9.2	Angelie Lazatin	Wisdom	Rihanna
10.1	Tobiah	Owen	Nakib
11.5	Kaci	Sophia	Letitia

Mrs. D. Cook - Teacher of Mathematics

Student Services

Reporting an Absence

Please call the absence line before 9.00am on 01268 822994 leaving your child's full name, form and reason for the absence. Contact is required each day of your child's absence, this is part of the Attendance Policy. Alternatively, please call the school on 01268 281234 and use option 1 (Not 2 Student Services). There is an answering service on this phone. Please leave a message, if you wish for us to call you back please include this in the message. Calls may not be answered before 9.00am.

Please do not use the info email address to leave absence information. You can also email: attendance@dlsbasildon.org to report your child's absence, or report it on Parentmail. If you have any Parentmail queries please contact me by email.

Contact Details

Please ensure all your contact details are kept up to date.

Holidays

If a holiday is not authorised, and is taken without permission, the Local Authority may issue a penalty notice to each parent of £60 for each child to be paid within 21 days.

If the penalty is not paid within the time scale the penalty will increase to £120. If the higher penalty is not paid within 28 days, the Local Authority will then institute legal proceedings against you in the magistrate's court under section 444 of the Education Act 1996 for failing to ensure your child attends school regularly.

Attendance

Well done to 7N 9N & 11N who achieved 100% attendance for a week.

Best form 11N - 95.9%

Best Year - 7 - 94.1%

There are 221 students who have 100% attendance since September, what an accomplishment - well done.

Mrs. T. Carlane-Smith - Student Services Manager

Recruiting Now for Teacher Training

Are you bored with the daily grind? Do you have skills and talents that aren't being used? Would you like to do a uniquely satisfying job that makes a real contribution?

Why not join our Teacher Training Programme?

BEC Teacher Training trains local teachers for local schools. With over 25 years of experience and rated an outstanding provider by Ofsted, our friendly and professional team works in close partnership with over 50 Essex schools to train primary and secondary teachers. Our trainees tell us that training with us is a 'first class experience' that gives them 'all the skills they need to be a successful teacher'. All our trainees get jobs when they reach the end of the course, with the vast majority choosing to take up positions in local schools as they take their first steps in this exceptionally rewarding career.



"Teaching is honestly wonderful. It's a joy to be a teacher!" says former trainee Maddie.

Contact us today to find out more about teacher training. Call 01268 477611, email louise@billericayscitt.com or visit our website www.billericayscitt.com for more information.



**BEC
TEACHER
TRAINING**

Harry Potter Studios

GCSE Photography students recently visited the Harry Potter Studios to learn about how camera angles and shots are used to communicate mood and tension.

The students first took part in a workshop that explored the creative industries at Warner Brothers studios and how the famous shots in the Harry Potter films were created. Students were then given the opportunity to get up close to photograph original props and costumes used in the films

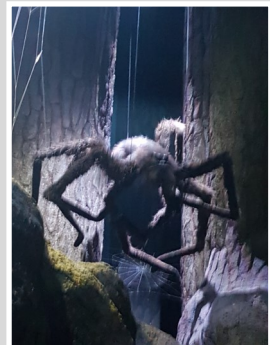
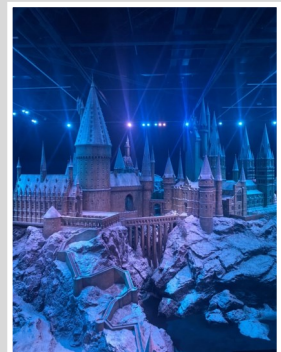
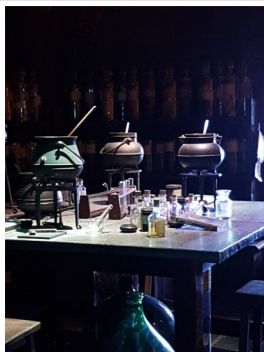
Following the workshop, students enjoyed a tour of the studios, enjoying greenscreen experiences, documenting the iconic sets seen in the Harry Potter films.

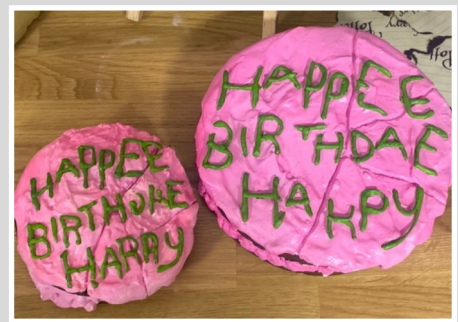
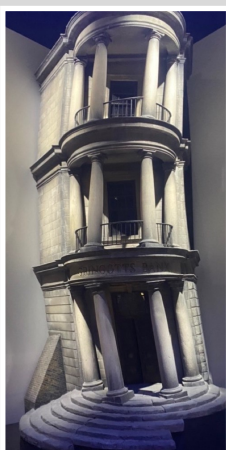
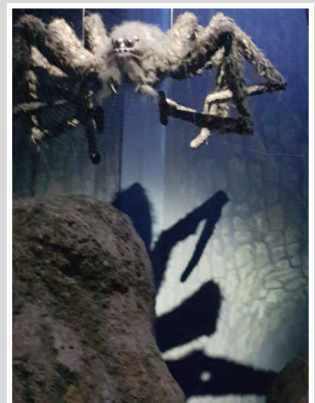
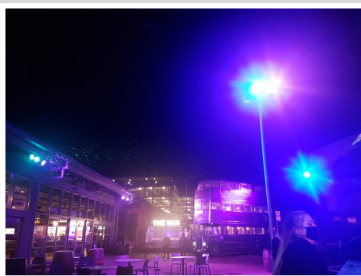
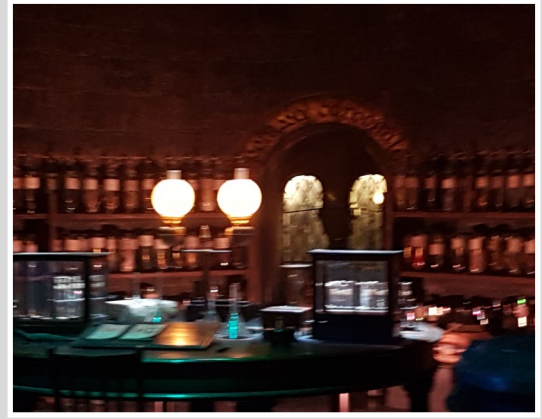
This valuable experience will enhance GCSE coursework and create some fantastic memories for the students.

Everyone had a fantastic day and were a credit to the school.

Mrs. A. Ansary - Subject Leader GCSE Photography

*On our Harry Potter visit our group decided to take part in some interactive activities one being the train simulation. This was a way of green screening parts of the Harry Potter films into the windows to make us feel the same way the actors felt. I felt very immersed in the action and added greatly to my experience whilst on the trip. **Year 11 Student***





The Twelve Days of Christmas

The song, "The Twelve Days of Christmas" is an English Christmas carol.

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. Someone during that era wrote this carol as a catechism song for young Catholics.

It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of the Church. Each element in the carol has a code word for a religious reality which the children could remember. To fit the number scheme, when you reach number 9, representing the Fruits of the Holy Ghost, the originator combined 6 to make 3, taking the 6 fruits that were similar: the fruit in each parenthesis is the that was not named separately.

There are actually Twelve Fruits of the Holy Ghost.

The "True Love" one hears in the song is not a smitten boy or girlfriend but Jesus Christ, because truly Love was born on Christmas Day. The partridge in the pear tree also represents Him because that bird is willing to sacrifice its life if necessary to protect its young by feigning injury to draw away predators.

The two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments



The three French hens stood for faith, hope, and love.

The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

The five golden rings represented the first five books of the Old Testament, which describe man's fall into sin and the great love of God in sending a Saviour.



The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit-----Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit----Charity, Joy, Peace, Patience [Forbearance], Goodness [Kindness], Mildness, Fidelity, Modesty, Continency [Chastity].

The ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful Apostles.



The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in The Apostles' Creed.