

## April 2023 at The Colne

### Key Dates

1 May 2023 - Bank Holiday

2 May 2023 - Strike Day - Online Learning apart from Year 11

3-4 May 2023 - Year 8 Immunisations

8 May 2023 - Bank Holiday

6 July 2023 - Year 10 Parents Evening

### Jack Petchey Regional Finals - Miss Jones

On Thursday 20th April, the Jack Petchey Regional Finals were held in Colchester. Our Year 10 representative was Kaina. She performed amazingly and had the audience wrapped during her speech about the importance and history of her name, and learning to pronounce it correctly. We are so proud of how Kaina did and how memorable her speech was.

Unfortunately, Kaina didn't place, but performed at her very best - the teachers who came to watch her said she couldn't have performed any better. Well done, Kaina!



East Essex Regional Final 2022-23



East Essex Regional Final 2022-23



### Boxing - Leon

Leon is part of the 'East Side Boxing Club' and is doing great.

At a recent fight in Tilbury, his opponent was 17 years old, Leon beat him in 3 rounds, it was amazing!

Leon said "Boxing has helped me in more ways than people think. It involves a positive mind set, fitness and discipline both in behaviour and training. One thing I always believe is: 'Train like you have never won, fight like you have never lost'".

### **John - Year 10**

*I have been doing dance since I was 4. I found love for dance at a school show in reception - a Christmas show, and I asked my parents after if I could do dance lessons, and I began my dance lessons. From then to now I've done Ballet (Pre-Primary, Primary, Grade 1,2,3 and 4), Modern (Grade 4 and now beginning 5), Tap, and also Jazz. I started at a local dance school and then just after beginning 'Grade 2 Ballet' I applied to RAD (the Royal Academy of Dance) in Battersea and got in. I stayed there for 3 years until Covid, in 2020 where the commute was not possible. Then I moved back to the local school. A year ago, when I moved here, I joined 'Colne Bank School of Dance' and began Grade 4 Ballet, Grade 4 Modern, Tap and also Jazz. Before Easter, I took my 'Grade 4 Modern exam' and got a Merit and will now continue to Grade 5. I have always and will always love dance, it has been such a big part of my life and I am proud to have completed Grade 4 Modern.*



We are so proud of John and all that he is achieving alongside being a student at the Colne. Well done John!

### **Design Collective - Bea and Bianca**

Some of our Year 9 & 10 students have been accepted into The Design Collective that are working with select students from the local area on developing a new community called Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community between Colchester and Elmstead Market, where they get the exciting opportunity to work with professional architects and designers to help shape the design of a new community.

“The reason I wanted to join the design collective is because in the future I hope to be involved with either architecture or engineering and when I saw the message go round on the Google Classroom I decided to give it a go. I believed joining would give me an opportunity to learn more about architecture and I was right - we will be designing a new garden centre being built in about 20 years from now and all of our ideas will be involved in the process.”

Bianca, Year 10

“This week I attended the first architecture and design collective meeting at Essex University. It is a great opportunity to interact with others my age with similar interests with a comfortable and informal atmosphere - also they gave us free pizza.”

Bea, Year 10



### STEM Trip - Mr Job

A group of 15 Year 9 Students visited the University of Essex recently to experience a day of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Maths) activities, and to gain more of an insight into life at university. In the morning they took part in a quiz about STEM, with steady hand games to decide any tiebreaks, and had a great presentation from the Ugly Animal Preservation Society, where a number of students became the animals to mimic their adaptations. In the afternoon, Colne students were lucky enough to visit the robotics department and gained hands-on experience of teaching robots to dance, and saw some cutting edge research taking place - the Tiptree Jam strawberry picking robot was a highlight.



After a Q&A session with University of Essex student ambassadors the students made their way back to school, many with a much clearer idea of what they would want to do later in life, and how to approach university life.

### GCSE 3D Design - ReadyMades - Miss Notman

The Year 10 GCSE 3D Design students have just completed their 'ReadyMades' project for their GCSE coursework. Students researched the Dada Art Movement, Marcel Duchamp and the use of ReadyMades in Art.

Using this and research into their contemporary Kenyan artist, Cyrus Kabiru, they had to plan and create their own artwork based on Kabiru's ReadyMade glasses. Students were only allowed to use items that were already pre existing, such as forks, nuts, bolts, wires, computer fans and bottle lids. The students' outcomes were fantastic.

Well done Year 10 GCSE 3D Design students!



### Colchester Zoo Rocks - Ms Hastie

As you may have already been aware, our Year 7 students took part in the 60th birthday celebrations of Colchester Zoo where they painted rocks. Our rocks have now been installed at a rock garden located in-between the entrance building and exit of the zoo (near the tall silver giraffe statue).

Well done Year 7!



### P.E. Clubs - Miss Pearson

These clubs will be running until the end of the school year. See what is on offer below:

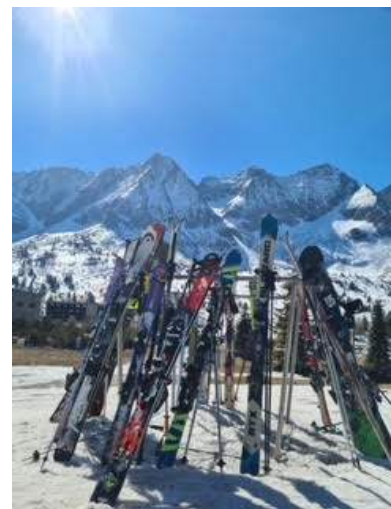
DAY	PE CLUBS	YEAR GROUP	VENUE
Tuesday after school	Athletics club Colne Cobras Cheerleading	All years All years	Top field Gym
Wednesday after school	Cricket club Rounders club	All years All years	Astro Astro
Thursday after school	Athletics club	All years	Top field
Friday After school	BTEC Sport & Sport Science Coursework catch up	Year 10 & 11	Learning Centre

## Colne Ski Trip 2023



Over the Easter break, we took 39 students from Years 10-11 to Italy on their ski trip - at last! Students have been waiting for this trip for nearly 3 years and were so excited to be able to finally go. Despite the 36 hour drive, multiple breaks at exotic service stations in France and the midnight arrival, students were absolutely animated and excited to get on the slopes.

On the first day, after 5 hours' sleep, we hit the slopes! Students had their boots on, skis in hands, helmets on heads, and were ready to go. Everyone started in the beginners groups for the instructors to gauge their experience and skills and it was obvious that even those who had never skied before were ready to compete and beat those who had been skiing for years. We were so impressed that despite only a few hours' sleep, everyone got up and gave it their best shot!



Lunchtime came, as did the DJs! We were all sitting eating our lunch, able to dance along with the DJs outside. It was such a unique experience doing all of this in the mountains; look at that view! We all then went back to skiing in the mountains, trialling tougher slopes, and getting better with each practice.

Every day the students were climbing up the mountain on the slopes; going from the greens to blues to reds in no time! With this, Mr Elliott debuted The Colne Ski Podcast on the ski lift, available to watch on the Twitter account

@PEColne where students shared tips, highlights, and chatted with Mr Elliott about their experiences. Head on over to our Twitter page to see what was said!



During the evenings, students played games (with a rather competitive Mario Kart competition one night...); we went to an Italian Pizzeria and had authentic Italian pizza and gelato; and generally enjoyed the down time between skiing. It's a tough gig!

We asked the students what their highlights were about the trip:

**Amelia** said "I've never skied before and never thought I could go on the red slopes. I did it on day 3 and felt so proud!"

**Fred** said "I really liked when we had authentic Italian pizzas and gelato - salted caramel was the best."



**Josh** said that skiing was "pretty cool" - although he is a serial skier and has been going twice a year since he was 4!

**Jonah** said "It was pretty good for our perseverance and we made lots of memories together"

**Matilda** said "It was gnarly in Tonale!"

Overall, it was such a fantastic trip and everyone had the best time.

Thank you to all the parents for allowing this trip to happen and the staff who came along.

We can't wait for the next one!



### **Shakespeare Project - Mrs Fry**

On Wednesday 19th April, fifteen Year 10 students visited University of Essex to take part in The Shakespeare Project. The day started with a performance of Macbeth from The Rubbish Shakespeare Company which was a funny and inventive adaptation of the famous play.

The students then took part in a workshop provided by the actors where they looked closely at the language of Shakespeare and the way that it should be performed.

After lunch, we were lucky enough to experience a lecture from Professor Nora Williams which looked at Shakespeare and the media and the ways that Shakespeare is an integrated feature of modern society.



The students all represented the school fantastically and really enjoyed this valuable opportunity. Throughout the day, student ambassadors from University of Essex were voting for students who had shown excellent engagement and participation - both Poppy and Archie were selected to receive a prize - Deliveroo vouchers!

“The experience was filled with techniques to improve English skills” - **Kyana**

“Fascinating experience - it really improved my understanding of Macbeth” - **Archie**

“The Shakespeare Project WILL change the way you view Shakespeare. After an amazing play and thoughtful lecture my views on Shakespeare have changed forever! Shakespeare was a man working and writing plays 400 years ago that still shape our modern day. Fantastic!” - **Rhiannon**



### **Marc's House - Ms Parker and Mr Mwanyo**

Following on from our assembly last month and our piece in last month's newsletter, we are pleased to say that the first shipment of donations is on its way to Marc's House in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This shipment is going by sea and will take around 6 weeks to reach its destination. We will follow up the arrival of the shipment with another assembly and many pictures of the children receiving the gifts. Here's a quick reminder of what Marc's House is and what it does:



Marc's House is a charity that was founded by a member of staff at The Colne in 2012. Initially, Marc's House started off looking after abandoned and street kids but it grew rapidly to accommodate former child soldiers as well who had been rejected by not only their families but by the local community. Most of the children who go to Marc's House only go for the night. They go for a safe place to sleep, a place to shower and have a meal and many leave again the next morning only to return another night. Most nights Marc's House supports around 250 children. Over the last 10 years it has supported over 6000 young people, some on a permanent basis and others they may only see once or twice but they never turn a child away.

They now need your help, and any help is greatly appreciated.

If you have any items that you are able to donate they will gratefully accept. This can be anything from clothes and shoes, sanitary products, soaps and toiletries, bedding, towels, kitchen equipment (i.e. plates, cutlery, saucepans etc), baby milk, nappies, wipes, unused makeup, costume jewellery, hair bands, brushes etc. In fact, they will accept just about anything. Sadly, they cannot take items of furniture due to shipping restraints. The young ladies have the opportunity to have sewing lessons so if you have any sewing equipment like material, sewing needles etc spare, they would also greatly appreciate these. You may even have an old sewing machine laying around that you no longer use which of course, they would happily take off your hands.



Stationary, pens, crayons etc are also greatly appreciated. Sadly, they are unable to accept books unless they are in French as this is the language they are taught and speak.

Donations can be brought to the school and taken to Ms Parker's room in A11 or left at reception where Marc's House will collect them from you and take them to the storage area within the school ready to be sent out to the Congo in the near future.

Marc's House would like to thank you for taking the time to read this and if you would like any more information or have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Ms Parker via [mail@colne.school](mailto:mail@colne.school) FAO Ms Parker or Mr Mwanyo.



## Spring Reading Challenge 2023 - Winner

Following the Spring Reading Challenge 2023, the winner is Sofiia in Year 9! Congratulations on your reading efforts.

Keep your eyes peeled to find out more information on our Summer Reading Challenge. Updates on what we do for reading at The Colne is on our reading website, found here: <https://reading.colne.essex.sch.uk/>



**Essex County Council**  
Libraries

**VOLUNTEER!**

Come and help children take part in the  
**Summer Reading Challenge 2023**  
in libraries during the summer holidays!

- boost your CV
- have fun chats with children
- talk about books
- help your local community

Apply online at [libraries.essex.gov.uk](https://libraries.essex.gov.uk)  
**Closing date: 30 June 2023**  
Apply early to secure your first choice of library.

**Open to ages 14 and over**

## Brightlingsea Library - Summer Reading Challenge 2023

The Summer Reading Challenge is a national programme that runs during the school summer holiday. Children of all ages are encouraged to read six library books and all children taking part receive a certificate and a medal when they complete the challenge. Volunteers will be working with children and their parents or carers, encouraging them to join the challenge and talking to them about the books they have been reading. Volunteers just have to be 14 or over by the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

More information and the online application form can be found on the library's website [here](#).

University of East Anglia

## Research into Young People's Mental Health



**Are you a parent or carer of a young person aged between 11-14 years?**

**Do you and your child want to take part in a research study that aims to find out how thinking and coping skills are related to mental health?**

**Would you be happy for your child to complete a 15-30-minute survey about their thinking skills and mood?**

**If so, please contact us to take part in our University of East Anglia study!**

To find out more please email Zoe on:  
[Zoe.Thompson@uea.ac.uk](mailto:Zoe.Thompson@uea.ac.uk)