



**THE COLNE**  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL & COLLEGE

# Newsletter July 2020



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## **Message from Mr Crane Head of School**

**I am delighted to be able to send you a newsletter for what has been an extraordinary term for all schools all over the world. I am sure we will look back in years to come about the “Covid” days and all the disruption and loss for so many. I am deeply upset by the end of school for our Year 11 students. It was a special year for myself as we joined the Colne together and I taught so many of them over their time here. I only hope that they are all successful in their next steps and that whatever path they choose they are able to do so without any further difficulties.**

**For those remaining with us, I was pleased that we were able to provide some full online lessons over the past few weeks. This is a new skill for many of our staff and students that we are developing. I feel we have improved significantly with this, but hope that it is not something that we will need to continue over the coming year. We have already welcomed back most of Year 10 who have been receiving face to face lessons in school. This has been accomplished adhering to social distancing measures as can be seen in the pictures below.**

**We are currently planning our full reopening for all Year groups from September. The way in which newsletters work, you may well have already been given the plans before you receive this. Please rest assured that we are working hard on making sure that we are able to fully open to all of our students come September and will have in place all we deem necessary to ensure the safety of everyone in our community.**

**I also want to give a special welcome to our new Year 7 students who will be joining us in September. It is a particularly difficult transition for them as they have not benefited from the usual transition work we are able to provide. I trust they will be fully embraced into The Colne in September.**

**We have managed to fill the Newsletter despite the difficulties we all face. The art, photography, English and drama work from the students is excellent, as can be seen. We have chosen the winners for the new murals that will be created full size in September. Aoibin’s BLM work is also of note. The sheer time, commitment and talent required to complete this was astounding. Also, a special mention for Ronnie and Lewis, whom you will see have been working hard in the community.**

**A special mention goes to Mr Coleman and Ms Le Cornu who are both leaving the Colne after very long and distinguished careers here. We wish you both every success in the future.**

**Finally from me in these unprecedented times, I would like to thank all the parents and carers who have written in over the months with your kind words of support. Although I have not managed to respond to everyone, please be aware that I share many with the staff during our bulletins and that we are very appreciative of the support you give us and the school.**

**Stay alert, stay safe and enjoy the summer.**

**I look forward to seeing you all in September.**

# Art Department

## New Mural Designs for the School

We offered our Art and Photography students the chance to design a mural for the school over half term. The chosen design will be turned into a large scale artwork to be displayed on a wall in the school; a chance for students to leave their mark on The Colne! Students were given creative freedom with the designs so long as it was themed around The Colne, they looked at famous examples of murals by Picasso, Diego Rivera, Keith Haring and James Rosenquist. The winner is yet to be chosen but here are a selection of the designs..



By Max Kerr



By Lucy Slater



By Jessica Barker



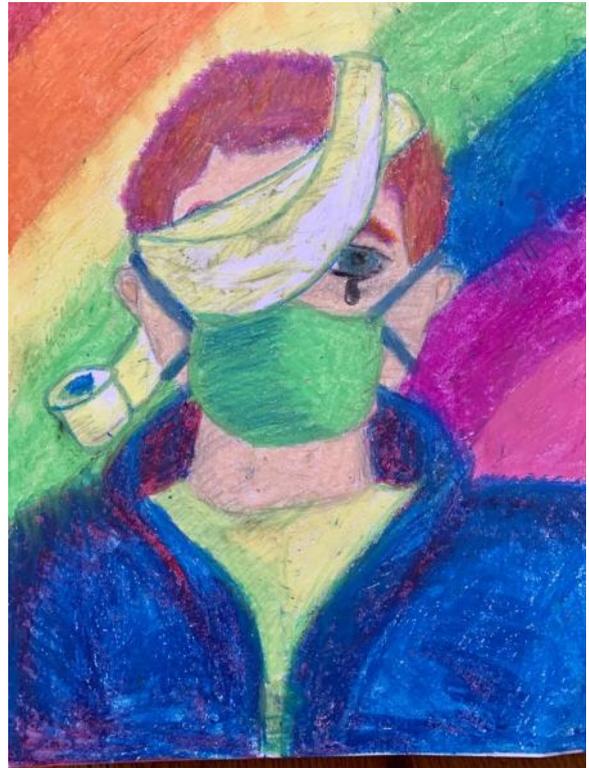
By Isaac Patterson

## Royal Academy of Art Competition entries

Many of our Art students have entered the Royal Academy of Art's Young Artist Exhibition while they have been at home. Usually this exhibition is shown at The Royal Academy of Art in London, however, this year it will be an online, virtual exhibition. Students from Years 7-11 could enter any piece of work they were proud of, either produced at school or at home. Here are some of the entries:



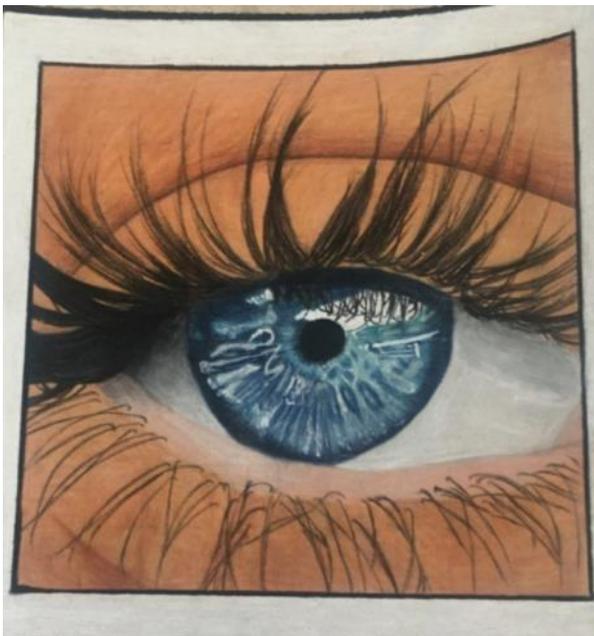
**Daisy the Cow by Amelie Myhill**



**Covid 19 by Max Kerr**



**We all see the world through a Different Lens  
by Daisy Murphy-Whymark**



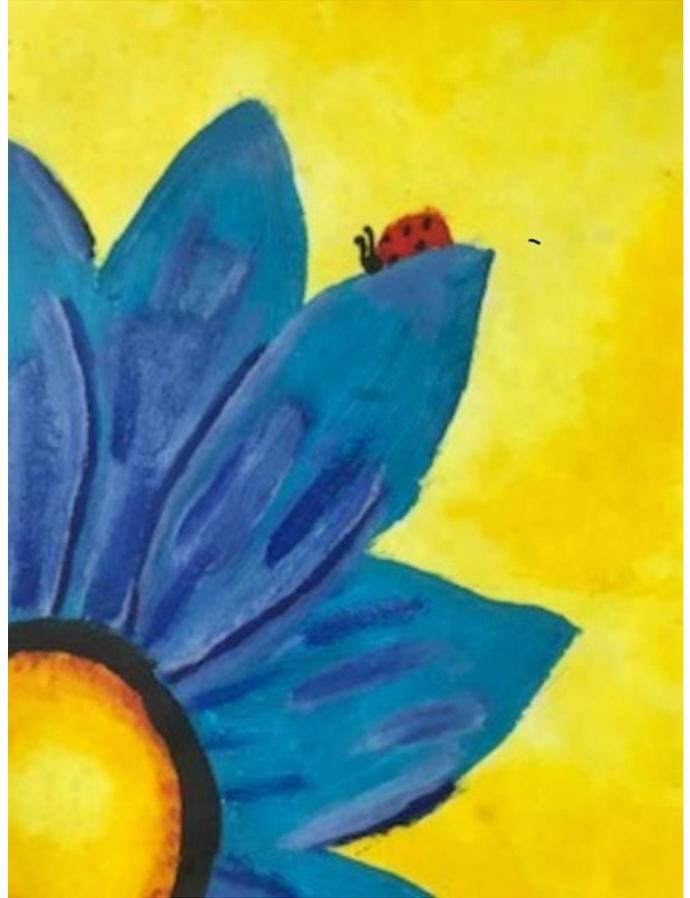
**How we see the World by Josie Smither**



**Rainbow Woman by Savannah Samms**



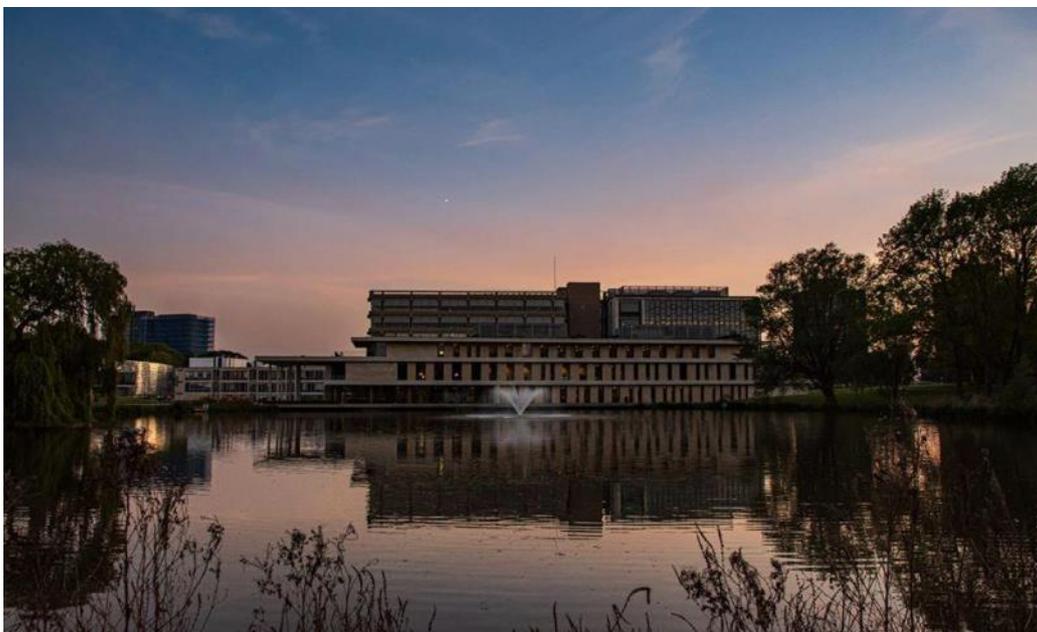
**Olivia by Katie Pearse**



**Summer Flower by Sophie Myhill**

### **Photography Success - Callum Burgess**

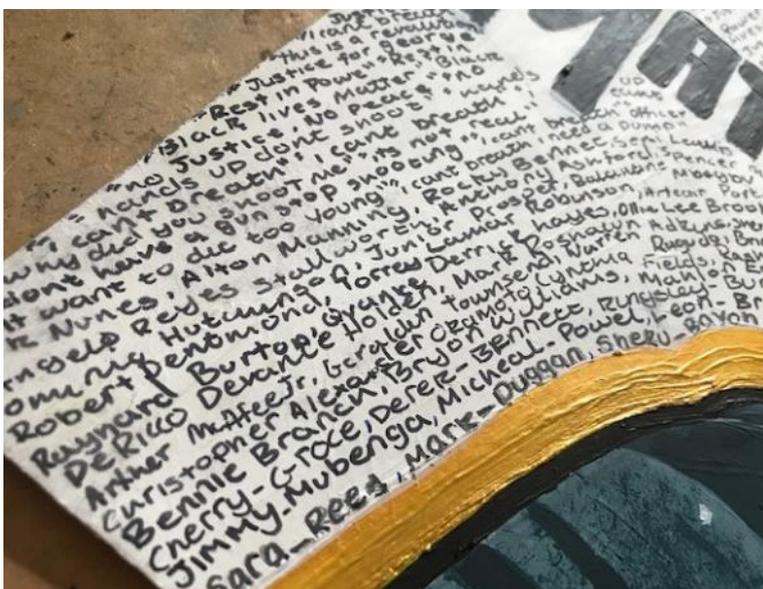
One of our budding Year 10 GCSE Photography students has been using lockdown as a chance to use his photography skills in the local area. Callum has been sharing his photographs via his dedicated photography social media platforms and also entering competitions. The photograph shown here of Essex University was shortlisted as a finalist in the Essex Life photography competition.





**On Monday 25 May, George Floyd lost his life in the most barbaric way possible. His death sent shockwaves around the world. Our Year 10 Art student Aoibhin took it upon herself to produce a beautiful and poignant artwork depicting George Floyd surrounded by the names of other innocent black lives killed in police custody. This sensitively and creatively constructed artwork speaks to us all, to check our thoughts, actions and the way we see and treat all peoples in our society. Art is meant to be powerful, emotive and meaningful. It has always followed, empowered and signified major movements in society. It gives voice to the unheard and can speak louder than words.**

**Aoibhin's work shows us that we, as a community, can be better, more inclusive and more sensitive to others. I would like to thank Aoibhin for her amazing artwork and also for the opportunity to reflect and consider the effects that her work and the death of George Floyd have on ourselves, our society, but most importantly, how we can positively change our world for the future, free from discrimination over the colour of someone's skin.**



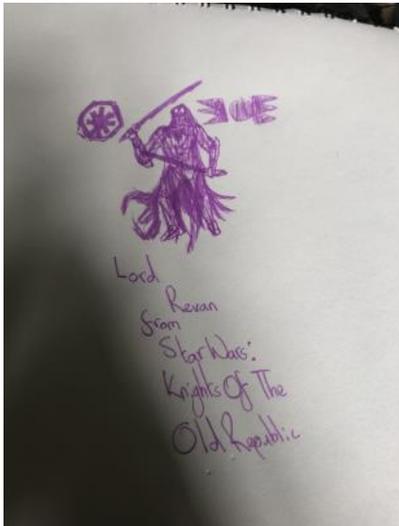
**By Aoibhin Year 10**

# English Department

## Jessica Surch Year 7



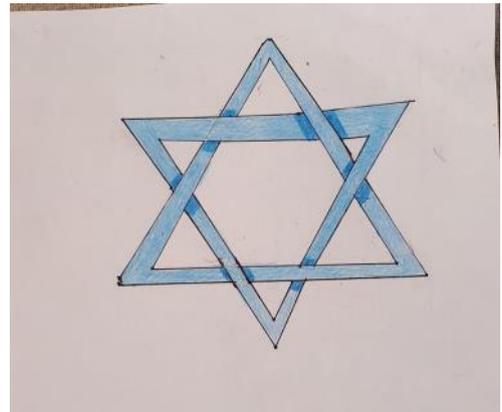
During lockdown we have been setting weekly tasks for remote learning, but I also wanted to see the creative skills our students have for English. Children's Art Week 2020 was the week of 8-14th June. I asked my students to create a piece of art around their favourite work of literature: a poem, book, song, or film adaptation. I received some amazing pieces. Here is a selection of what was produced. Thank you to everyone who submitted their work, we have some really talented students!



**Jay Tait Year 9 -**  
"This is Darth Revan from Star Wars. He sacrificed himself to The Dark Side and he chose it so he was able to control it. He could use both sides of The Force and when he died, his spirit split in two."

## Sam Morton Year 7

favourite book is the Tattooist of Auschwitz

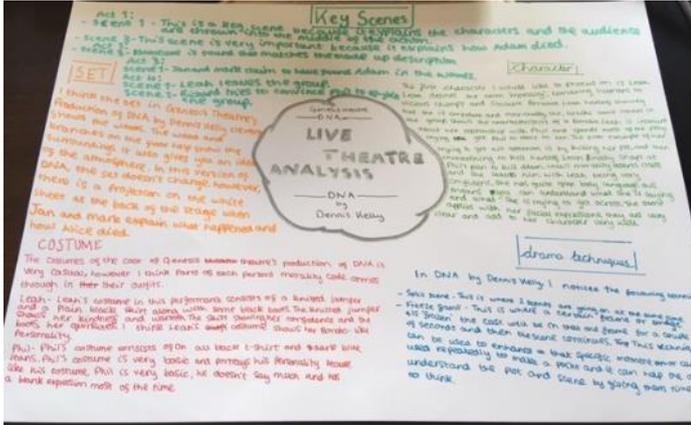


**Kate Lambert Year 7** favourite books from the Harry Potter series



**Aruna Sher Year 8** Anne from Anne of Green Gables

# Drama Department



The Colne Drama Department has seen some exceptional work from students. This piece was by **Felicity Markham** who is a **Year 8** student preparing for her GCSE Drama.

The Drama Department has been impressed by the level of outstanding work produced by many students. It is a real pleasure to see their commitment and passion for our subject.

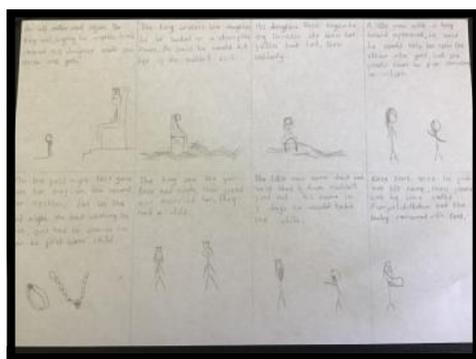
As we all are getting used to this online teaching, I too was nervous today. However, after the lesson I found myself having the same buzz I have when I am in a classroom. It felt so good and so natural. (I'm not bragging here). I just wanted to give you an insight into my experience.

During the lesson I asked students to create mind maps, list key words and create a storyboard. There were timed intervals and a sharing on the 'chat' after. At the end of the lesson I got students to send me their work on Google Classroom and I have acknowledged whose work was exceptional. The outcomes have blown me away with excitement for my next lesson.

One other task I asked them to do was mark their own work and I can see they have done this from the work they submitted. We used the 'chat' box to share ideas and you can see a sense of peer sharing in their work as they decided to name the dinosaur "Bob".

A truly lovely experience that I will treasure in my teaching career. Go Year 7!

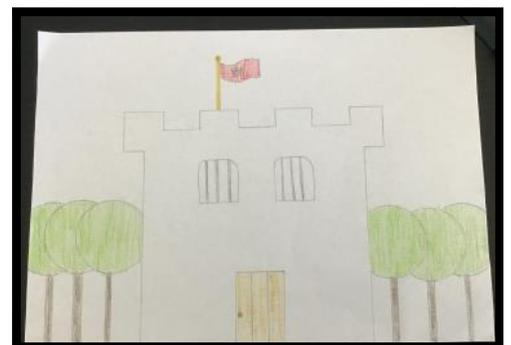
## Mrs R Lee



### Ben Kelly Year 7

Rumpelstiltskin storyboard

Writing a script



## STEM

We had an amazing 48 entries in the Sea Cadet **STEM** knowledge quiz. We had three participants get every question correct so congratulations to Eve Milgate, Rebecca Minshull and Thomas Webb. The winners will receive a £10 Amazon voucher in the post. Students who got above 80% in the quiz also received a certificate and small prize.

Well done to everyone who participated!

## Out in the Community



**Harry McNeish** was runner up in a National handwriting competition about 'The best adventure I have been on.'

Harry has also been keeping himself busy with online courses.

**Left: Harry saluting the NHS workers**



**Lewis Gibbins** has a local morning paper round and to cheer up some of his older customers, he has been putting a 'happy' picture inside the paper – these have been of rainbows and butterflies.

Lewis has stated there is too much doom and gloom in the papers and he wanted to cheer them all up!

**Jessica Dewey** in Year 9 submitted an entry for the South Essex College Creative Writing Challenge 2020 and won the Secondary School Category.

## Donating to Local Charities

With the school not fully reopening till September, surplus stock from the refectory has been donated to local food banks and other supporting charities.

Charities that have received food donations are

Colchester Food Bank, Beacon House (a homeless shelter) Colchester and Tendring Women's Refuge



**Alu May Watson collecting on behalf  
Brightlingsea Food Bank**





**Ronnie** has been using his **3D-printer to print ear guards** for the NHS for free from morning until night every day.

So far he has printed over 400 ear guards that form part of the necessary **PPE** kit and supplied them to **Colchester paramedics, Colchester Hospital, cancer care nurses, various care homes and St Helena Hospice.**

He has had over **1100 orders** so far from different healthcare establishments across Essex.

**Helen Wilson, Ronnie's mother and nominator, said,** "He printed the first 300 using his own filament but has now had some now donated. He has also just bought himself a second printer so he can double production. We are very proud of him."

**Upon receiving the award via email, Ronnie said,** "I am honoured to be given this award, it's great to be able to help people during this time of need. I will be using my award to purchase more materials so I am able to keep printing."

**Ronnie has now printed over 3700 ear guards with orders still coming in daily.**

**The ear guards have been distributed nationwide, going to places such as Wales, Scotland Liverpool and Birmingham's Children's Hospital to name just a few.**



## **Mr Coleman leaving The Colne after 28 years**



An inspirational teacher and role model to both students and staff is moving on from The Colne, after 28 years, to continue his role with the Rugby Academy as part of the new Sigma Sixth provision.

Mr Coleman took on the leadership of the PE Faculty as the school became a Specialist Sports College and has provided endless experiences and opportunities for all students. His commitment and dedication to, not only his lessons and tutor groups, but to our sports clubs and teams is phenomenal. He would go above and beyond to help and support students and other members of staff.

Thanks to his incredible organisation of over 20 ski trips, thousands of students (and staff) have not only learnt to ski but have gained valuable memories to last a lifetime.

We will miss you Mr Coleman and want to thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to The Colne.

## **Ms Le Cornu leaving after 17 years**

This summer, the Maths department will be saying goodbye to a long serving and much loved member of the department who hasn't just had an impact on us, but the whole school in her time at the Colne. Ms Le Cornu has been teaching at the Colne for 17 years and has worn many hats in her time at the school. She has been a maths teacher to hundreds (probably thousands) of students, she has supported students as a Year Leader, she has taken students on trips, including Danbury, and more importantly she has been a warm smiling face when students have needed it most. Since joining The Colne, Ms Le Cornu has played a huge part in training and supporting all new teachers who have begun their profession with us and it is more likely than not that Ms Le Cornu has been involved in some part of the development of any teacher who has ever taught at The Colne.



We're sad to see such a passionate, gifted, creative and inspirational teacher retire from the profession and we, as a department and school, will miss her greatly. However, we are delighted that she will soon be off on her new adventures, spreading her joy and kindness elsewhere and we are proud that her legacy will live on through the staff and students she has inspired.

**Love the Colne Staff**

## **Year 11**

You have been amazing students to work with and we will always have fond memories of supporting you throughout the year. We would like to wish you all every success for the future and hope that all your dreams come true.

**Mr Rudkins and Mr Elliot**



## **Dear Year 11 GCSE Drama group**

What a journey we went on, I had some of you in my Year 7 form, I always felt like your second mum in school and very protective over you all. You all grew up to be such confident, brave and independent students.

Each and every single one of you touched my heart. Your group was special as you all worked together to succeed and made every lesson possible.

I am proud to have taught you over the many years, you are a credit to yourselves, each other and the school. I wish you all the luck in the world, and I know you will succeed as you all have the qualities for success.

Please stay in touch and should you need anything in the future, I am happy to help.

Thank you. **Mrs Lee**

## **Dear Year 11**

Many of you may know that I am retiring this year and I am so sorry that we did not get to complete our last term in school together. It has been a difficult time for everyone but especially so for you guys.

Goodbye 11MA3, my last tutor group and what a great bunch you were. I looked forward to seeing you each morning, bleary eyed but always cheerful!

11EH1: Aah what can I say? You were my last ever exam class and what a pleasure it was to teach you. I will look back on my final year of teaching knowing that I taught a truly intelligent group of students. Always reach for the skies, I believe in you.

To all of Year 11, whatever you choose to do in the future I wish you every success. I can only hope that you enjoy your career as much as I have enjoyed mine.

All the best

**Ms Le Cornu**



## **Hi guys!**

It has been an absolute pleasure teaching each and every one of you. Whilst I am sure that you will have missed the heavy revision leading up to exams and the last minute tips about how to deflect the examiner's traps, the main thing is that you are all safe and well.

As this GCSE year draws to an end in the most unexpected of ways, I would like to wish you all the very best of luck with your future endeavours. Do not forget to draw on your past experiences and to remember the values of The Colne. I will miss you all dearly. Bonne chance!

**Madame Alphonse**

## **Dear Year 11**

It has been a privilege to teach so many of you over the years. I was so lucky that I was able to follow your journey in GCSE History from Year 9 and truly see you grow with the subject. It was also an honour to teach some of you Citizenship this past year and discuss some of the most up to date topics for a change. Good luck in the future!

**Mrs Wicks**

## **Dear Year 11**

It has been a pleasure to meet you all this year and to see you all working hard towards your exams. It is, indeed, disappointing that you were not able to sit these exams, however, I have no doubt that you will be successful in the next step of your journey, whether that be in further education or work.

I have been lucky enough to meet most of you in my short time at the school, however, having the opportunity to drop into so many of your Year 11 lessons and having the opportunity to get to know some of you has been a real highlight for me. Thank you for making me feel welcome and for being an amazing Year 11!

Best of luck in the future - it is yours for the making!

**Mrs Heffer**

## **Year 11**

Good luck for the future, especially those that I mentored and those that were in my science classes, remember, the meaning of the word **IMPETUS** (PHYSICS):

A force that makes a moving object able to continue moving at the same velocity (=speed), despite any resistance (=force that slows things down).



## **Dear Year 11**

It has truly been a pleasure to teach so many of you over the past 5 years and I hope you will look back on your time at The Colne with many happy memories. To my amazing netball team - 5 years undefeated in any school match - thank you for your commitment and for making training so much fun! I will miss you all and wish you all the best for the future.

**Mrs Pulford**



## **To my year 11 mathematicians**

I truly enjoyed every moment of teaching you and wish you lots of success and much happiness along your chosen paths.

Don't let anything stop you from achieving your dreams and goals. **Mrs Meyer**

## Dear Year 11 Leavers

Wishing you all the best, now and always. Thank you for being a lot of fun to teach. Remember to keep on learning and putting one foot in front of the other. 'Aim high, hit high and you will go high.' Best wishes

### Mr Cooksley



What can I say, having been with you since your first day, I feel as cheated as you not being able to see you for your last exam, last day at school and your Prom but these are strange times. I shall miss you all and wish you well for the future. Stay safe, be kind, enjoy your next adventure and always remember to **PICK UP YOUR LITTER**  
**Gina x**

I am really disappointed to not have had a chance to say goodbye properly to a lovely Year group. When I joined the school you were in Year 9 and I taught a number of you for History. Time seems to have flown by since then and now you are all going off into the big wide world. I will miss the good humour that many of you have shown over your time with us and your commitment to hard work. I must reserve a special goodbye to my History class who were a great group and had to put up with my bad attempts at accents and humour over the last two years. I might not miss Bennett and Callum doing all they could to take the lesson onto a completely different topic! I am disappointed that we have not had the annual Prom to say a proper goodbye to you all.

I wish you all the very best in the future, I know you are going to do so well.

Best wishes  
**Mr Barber**



## **SIN-Full Recipe** by Mrs S Innes

### **Strawberry shortcake slice**

#### **Ingredients**

**600ml double cream**  
**1 tbsp vanilla bean paste**  
**1 tbsp orange blossom water**  
**125g icing sugar, plus 2 tbsp**  
**500g shortcake biscuits, plus 3 crushed**  
**350g strawberries sliced**



#### **Method**

Line a 20cm cake tin or dish (either a square or rectangle works well) with cling film, leaving an overhang.

Whip 500ml of the cream, the vanilla, orange blossom water and 125g icing sugar with an electric whisk until thick and billowy.

Add a layer of biscuits to the tin, and spoon over some of the cream, about 1cm thick all over. Add a layer of strawberry slices, then repeat with the cream, biscuits and strawberries until you fill the tin, finishing on a layer of biscuit. You'll have some strawberries left over to serve.

Press everything down well so every biscuit is covered in cream.

Cover and chill overnight.

To serve, flip the tin onto a serving plate and remove the cling film.

Whip the remaining 100ml cream with 1 tbsp icing sugar and dollop on top of the cake, swirling it around.

Top with the remaining strawberry slices in lines, sift over the remaining 1 tbsp icing sugar, and sprinkle the biscuit crumbs in between the rows of strawberries.

Cut into slices to serve.



# **The Colne Community School Fundraiser raised £4,000.03**

## **Your money was sent to Ethiopia**



### **Why Ethiopia?**

**In 1990, Ethiopia emerged from civil war as one of the least developed and most impoverished countries in the world. Since then the country has made tremendous progress in fighting poverty, with the expansion of clean water sources serving as a major driver. In just over 20 years, total access to improved water has increased from less than 15% to nearly 40%. But as the second most populous country in Africa, there are still tens of millions of people who rely on dirty sources of water.**

**Access to clean water in Ethiopia reduces water collection time and disease burden, creating transformational change in education, gender equality and household income. Supporting access to clean water in Ethiopia builds a critical foundation for future development and prosperity.**

### **What's next?**

**Thanks to you, our partner organization, The International Rescue Committee, is busy working on 276 projects. In light of Coronavirus, we are expecting and planning for delays to implementation. While timelines may change, your money is hard at work and is more important than ever as we fight to keep families healthy and safe in the midst of a pandemic.**

