

February 2023 at The Colne

Key Dates

1 March 2023 - Online learning for Years 7-10, Year 11s in school for mock exams

2 March 2023 - Year 8 Parents Evening

13 March 2023 - Year 11 individual and whole year photos

26 April 2023 - Year 7 Parents Evening

1 May 2023 - Bank Holiday

8 May 2023 - Bank Holiday

6 July 2023 - Year 10 Parents Evening

The Lion King - Mrs Pipe

Show week at The Colne was a huge success!

Students performed to Year 4 and Year 6 from some of our feeder primary schools and then three public performances. They have been working towards this production since auditions began in June last year. We have rehearsed after school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays since then; the dedication of our students has been exceptional and they have worked so hard to produce these outstanding performances.

We were very impressed that they ran backstage by themselves and maintained professionalism throughout the shows. It is incredible to think that they have achieved this, but the chance to work as a 'family' of Year 7s to Year 11s on this project, has enabled so many leadership and teamwork opportunities, facilitating them to take on these responsibilities.

This production has been a great celebration of the importance of our creative subjects in building confidence and creating bonds across a diverse range of students all with a shared passion for the arts. We hope we have inspired more students to take part in the future.



Professional photos of the event can be viewed and purchased through following this link: http://www.robertwongphotography.co.uk/colneschool_lionking2023/

I would like to express my thanks on behalf of our incredible Visual and Performing Arts Team to everyone who has supported this production - the students, parents, staff and our appreciative audiences. We are already looking forward to our next one! Watch this space....



Drama Trip - Ms Sargent



On Wednesday 1st February, the Visual Arts Department took the cast of The Lion King to see the West End version. This was such an almighty experience. The students were singing all the songs on the way there. The coach journey was alive from the excitement (as well as Ms Sargent's sightseeing highs of London on the microphone). We had the best seats in the house, the thrill of the show was pumping through our blood. Once the show had started the students would nudge each other when their

characters came on stage. The students would watch in awe - especially Timon and Pumbaa who were more hilarious than we imagined. The craft of the set design and the whole ensemble performances were a thrill to see. The students had an incredible time and are now truly buzzing for their show!



Spring Reading Challenge

Don't forget to log your entries for the Spring Reading Challenge! Go to our Reading Website or see the poster below.

<https://reading.colne.essex.sch.uk/reading-challenges>

What do I do?
Read at least one book from each topic and log it on the Reading Website!
Search 'Reading at The Colne' for our website.

Topic 1:
27th January is International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Why not read a book written by a Jewish author, or about the Jewish culture?

Topic 2:
Chinese New Year is from 22nd January – 5th February. Read a book from a Chinese author, or with a storyline set in or about China.

Topic 3:
Burns Night is on the 25th January and is for the famous poet, Robert Burns. Read some poetry – ask your teachers what their favourite poems are!

Topic 4:
LGBT History Month is celebrated in February. Read a book written by, or about, people the LGBT community!

How long do I have?
You have until 31st March to read and submit your books. Any submissions in April will not be counted!
You can submit as many times as you like.
Speak to Miss Reuben in A9 for more information.

Spring Reading Challenge 2023

P.E. Termly Rewards - Miss Pearson

The following students have been selected for an award in PE for one of the following categories, Effort, Achievement or Commitment. We choose these based on the students' attitude towards PE and if they attend extra curricular activities. Also, extraordinary sporting achievements outside of school. Well done this term to the following students:

Boys	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Achievement	James Clarke	Nojus Vitas	Reece Street	Patrick Hunt	Ellis Gilders
Commitment	Jacob Richmond	Keneddie Hayes	Tom Brackenbury	Charlie Keeling	Max Pickford
Effort	Reuben Cook	Bray Palmer	Joel Simmons	Dillon Rowe	Arran Smith
Girls	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Achievement	Lilly-Joan Hickey	Echo Woods	Ella Woodger	Kate Lambert	Fliss Markham-Lee
Commitment	Lily Buckland	Abigail Wharton	Isla Markham-Lee	Amelie Belcher	Sophia Myhill
Effort	Emilia Nutt	Lola Reed	Kaelyn Edwards	Pheobe Franklin	Rhiana Turner

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week 6-10th Feb - Ms Wynne

Students had an assembly by Mr Bell, one of our science teachers, who had a career in the police for 30 years. Mr Bell spoke to students about his experiences with stress throughout life, how he coped and the importance of connecting with others.

Our student mental health ambassadors increased in numbers! We now have:

<u>Year 7</u>	<u>Year 8</u>	<u>Year 9</u>	<u>Year 10</u>	<u>Year 11</u>
Logan Burton Austin Skeggs	Tessa Job Ava Juniper Phoebe Nunn Charlotte Sawyer Imi Gabb Violet Fowler Joshua Brill	Alex Wright Isobel Denny Henry Owen	Jessica Dicaprio Polly Paterson Amelia Cundy Kyana Golabi	Lily Juniper Ellie Murphy

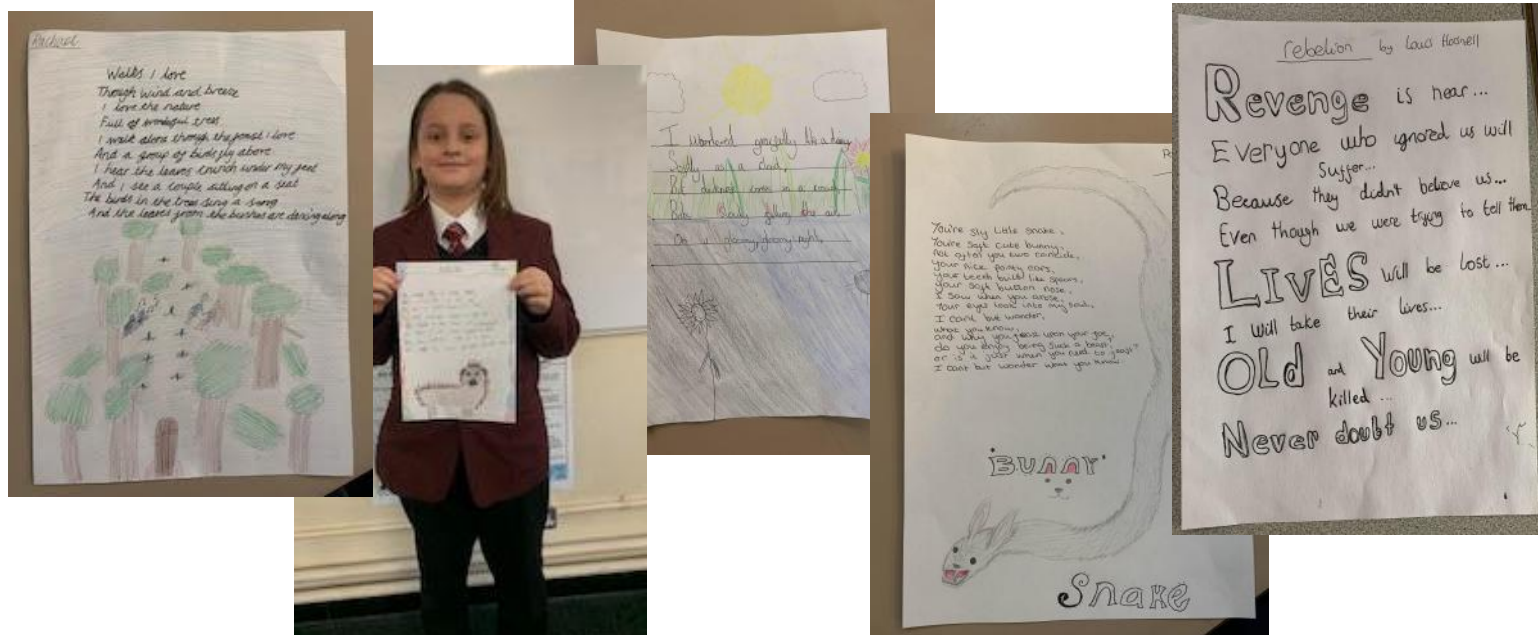
All of these students received a workshop from Heads2Mind about how to have conversations around mental health and how to spot signs and symptoms of poor mental health in others as well as themselves.

During Children's Mental Health Week, some classes tuned in to live events hosted by Beyond, around positivity and reaching out to others.

We also had Kierren Pearce in, from the Multi Schools Council, who spoke with some parents about wellbeing and social media.

Amazing English Work

Year 7 have been working on Romantic poetry and being inspired by Romantic poets, such as William Blake. They have been producing fantastic pieces - see below for some inspirational work!



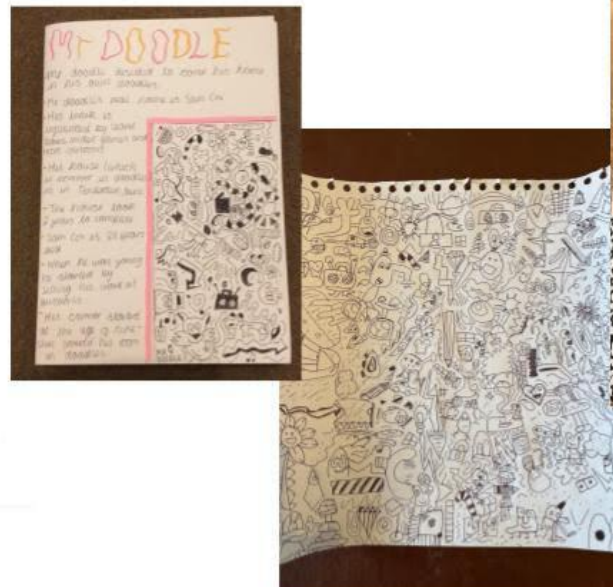
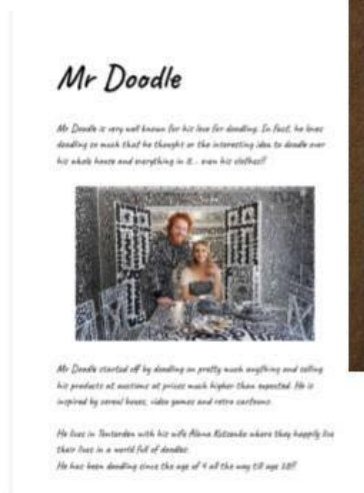
Spotlight - Mrs Kelly

'Spotlight' is the new termly activity from the Visual & Performing Arts faculty created to encourage students to **explore knowledge and culture beyond the classroom**.

Every half term Art, Music, Drama and DT will shine the spotlight on one practitioner or piece that students can explore further in their own time.

We were really impressed with the responses last term. Here are some student responses to the Art Spotlight based on the artist 'Mr Doodle'.

"I really like Mr Doodle's work as it is very unique. This is because the artist adds doodles to regular images which has not been done by any other artist before. I like how every little doodle fits into another little doodle almost like a jigsaw puzzle. Overall this artist is very unique and creative with his work."



Look out for the new Spring Term Spotlight coming very soon!

Lauren - International Dance Finals

Lauren is getting ready to compete in the International Dance Finals with her dance group Alliance. This is in April - we wish Lauren the best of luck!

From Lauren herself: I wanted to thank all the people that have supported me throughout the last two years. Being part of the Alliance Performing Arts Team has been a great opportunity. I have grown in confidence, made extremely good friends and had the opportunity to travel and take part in international competitions. My advice to anyone thinking of



doing something but doubting yourself is this: Go for it!! I didn't believe I could dance with these amazing people in front of thousands of people but I have and I do. Whilst it is nice to win this really it's the most important thing it's the journey that we as a team take together the laughs and the cries. Bring on the 1st April for our finals weekend looking forward to every bit.

Mrs Smith: Calling all budding novelists.....

The History and English departments are looking for aspiring novelists to enter a national competition with the Historical association. The competition is open to all students across the school. To enter you need to write a historical story of between 400-3500 words. The story needs to have the theme of coronations as this year we celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. In tutor time, your form tutor will discuss the competition and how to enter. There are also posters in the English and History classrooms which give hints and tips. Mrs Fry and Mrs Smith will hold an after school workshop on April 20th in room A102 at 3:15pm- during the workshop we will examine plot and character development whilst Mrs Smith can support with historical accuracy. As a school we can only enter 5 stories to the national competition, these students will receive a prize from the school and hopefully a prize from the historical association.

What makes a good historical story?

- **Historical accuracy** – even down to the choice of names that characters are given and any props additional to the historical setting. Research is key!
- **A riveting read** with a good plot!
- **A convincing story** – i.e. is it plausible that these events and/or this character could have existed at the time?
- **Use of historical knowledge** to feed the plot, context and character
- **Effective use of historical vocabulary and literary conventions**, including where dialogue is included in the story
- **Creative and interesting perspectives of storytelling**. In the past we have received an entry telling the story of a siege from the perspective of the castle!

Entries need to be emailed to amy.smith@colne.school by Friday 19th May.

So pick up your quills and start writing..

James Clarke - Essex Schools XC Event

This week James Clarke (Year 7) represented The Colne at the Essex Schools Cross Country event after finishing 2nd at the Colchester & District schools Cross Country event earlier in the term. James placed 9th (out of 217!) in the U13's boys race and as a result has been asked to represent Essex at the Inter Counties event later in the year. On behalf of everyone at The Colne, we would like to congratulate James and wish him the best of luck for his next race!