



# PLUME NEWS

Maldon's Community Academy

Week Ending 29/04/2022



## Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!

**Leo Weller to Compete in the East Essex Regional Final for the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge**  
Leo Weller fended off very strong competition to reach the East Essex Regional Final for the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge taking place at Colchester Academy on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Doors will open at 6:00pm and the event will start at 6:30pm. The results of the competitors that Leo had to compete against speak volumes for the demands of the competition. However, Ms Theobald, who organised the competition said, "It was very hard to choose a winner; the standards set by everyone were amazingly high"



### Results of the "Speak Out" Challenge:

**1<sup>st</sup> place - Leo Weller**

**In joint 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Molly Welsted and Paddy O'Brien**

**In joint 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Scarlett Chapman and Benjamin Frost**

**Finalists - Becca Palmer, Oliver Cooper and Ella Mansfield**

Mr Wakefield pictured with the challenge group as well as with Leo, could not have been prouder of everyone that was awarded a certificate for their participation in this important event. He was absolutely delighted to award the certificates personally and to offer praise, encouragement, and his thanks. Good luck Leo, we know you will be fantastic on the day.

## Reminders

### Year 11 Prom Payments

A gentle reminder—the final payments are required for the Year 11 Prom by Friday 13 May. Thank you

### Dance Lessons – Kit requirements

Year 7 and 8 students remove their blazers and ties and then change out of their school shoes. They can work in bare feet or clean indoor trainers or dance shoes. Any student that wears a skirt will need to bring Plume PE shorts or Plume leggings to change into. If students want to wear a jumper during their Dance lesson they will need to wear their blue school jumper or their Plume PE jumper.

Year 9 students and above get changed into their full PE kits and then either work in bare feet or clean indoor trainers or dance shoes. For KS4 and KS5 students they will need to work in bare feet or Dance shoes – no trainers can be worn for KS4 or KS5 lessons.

If you any questions or would like any further information please contact me on [n.markham-lee@plume.essex.sch.uk](mailto:n.markham-lee@plume.essex.sch.uk)  
Mrs N. Markham-Lee

# TEAM WORK



To exercise their teamwork training the year 10 Princes Trust group visited the Mersea Outdoors Centre. The team's objectives were to aid and assist each other on the climbing wall, here they all exceeded their own targets and each of them pushed themselves to do their best! The encouragement from peers and staff alike was astounding! The next task was an obstacle course that they all had to cross together whilst maintaining water levels in two buckets: The team triumphed on the teamwork task successfully completing the course demonstrating communication, planning, strategising and working together. Well done to all involved.

Mrs Tween & Mrs Harrington



## Library helper

Would you like to become a library helper?

It would mean committing to one lunch or break time a week to help out in the library. Jobs would include:

- Returning and issuing books
- Shelving books
- Processing books
- Helping with displays.

If you are interested, then please write a short letter explaining why and send it to

[c.symons@plume.essex.sch.uk](mailto:c.symons@plume.essex.sch.uk) or drop it into your nearest library by Friday 6th May.

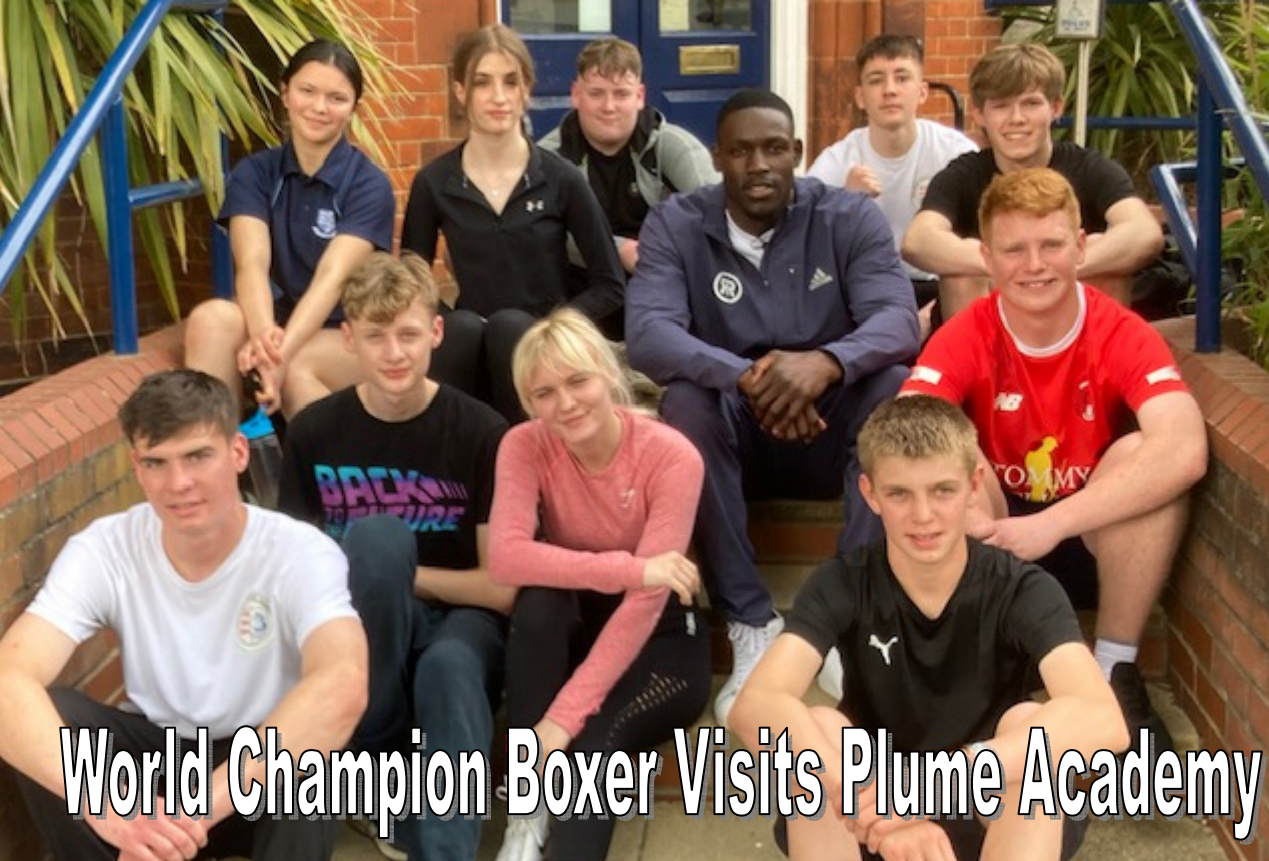


# PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

'Plume Maths department are taking part in the Puzzle of the Week competition again for 2022! Students and their families are encouraged to take part and prizes will be given to students with the most correct answers each term. Submit your answers each week by registering via the website. Weekly puzzles will also be shared on Twitter via @PlumeMaths.

The link is <https://www.puzzleoftheweek.com/> along with the message:

**Happy Puzzling!!'**



## World Champion Boxer Visits Plume Academy

During the Easter break, World Boxing Council Silver Cruiserweight Champion of the World, Richard Riakporhe, visited Plume Academy with a team from Sky Sports. The purpose of the visit was to speak to a group of our own gifted and talented athletes about his journey through life to this point, including nearly dying at the age of 18 after suffering a stab wound to the chest.

Richard also gave some advice and guidance in terms of becoming, as well as maintaining, a career as a professional athlete after which he led a 40 minute boxing focused circuit session with the students who attended.

In Richard's last fight on 26 March 2022, just two weeks prior to his visit to the academy, he headlined the card at a packed Wembley Arena. However, by the end of the year, Richard is hoping to fight again and possibly against one of his main rivals on the world stage.

Whoever this turns out to be, we wish this honorary member of the Plume Family every success whilst also thanking him for coming to Maldon to provide a group of our students with his precious time and invaluable input.

The clip to the final Sky Sports clip can also be accessed here:

[pic.twitter.com/RxGidD6LrJ](https://pic.twitter.com/RxGidD6LrJ)

Mr Wakefield

## Communicating with the Academy

For all **subject specific matters**, please liaise directly with the **individual class teacher in the first instance**. The next level of dialogue would be with the individual Subject or Faculty Leader.

For all **non-subject and pastoral related matters**, please liaise directly with your child's **Assistant Head of Year in the first instance**.

The next level of dialogue would be with your child's Head of Year and after that, your child's Head of Campus. The main channels of communication to use are:

Telephone:

Mill Road Campus for Year 7 and Year 8: 01621 879803

Fambridge Road Campus for Years' 9-13: 01621 854681

Email:

Email with staff whose contacts can be found via our website and through >Parents>Staff Contacts. Email correspondence can be constructed in the following format: The member of staff's first initial followed by a dot, the member of staff's surname, then add @plume.essex.sch.uk for every member of staff. For example, [B.Smith@plume.essex.sch.uk](mailto:B.Smith@plume.essex.sch.uk)



**Please do not go to our first aid area for water**



# THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

On Saturday 23 April 59 of our Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students set off from our Fambridge Road Campus to complete their practice expedition. The first day was a stomp out towards Paper Mill Lock, which is a lovely walk, some groups walking via Woodham Walter and others via the Blackwater Navigation. En route they were regularly met by their supervisors to check all was well. They then returned via a different route to camp at our Mill Road Campus, the first group arriving just before 4.00pm and the last group just before 8.00pm. All the groups had all done extremely well to overcome navigational errors, heavy rucksacks and hurting feet and all the leaders were delighted. The evening was spent cooking a three-course dinner, washing up and looking forward to bedtime. Sunday's walk was a circular trip to Wickham Bishops via the Pear Tree Pantry who had agreed to set aside an area for our students to sit and they even put out a welcome sign for us- their breakfasts are highly recommended! Once the students had checked in at the redundant church of St Peter near the disused railway line they returned to Plume Academy, the last group arrived around 4.00pm which was fantastic, and I am sure that there is a saying about the first being last and the last being first!

Throughout the weekend the students learnt so much about the outdoors and looking after themselves and it was a delight to see them grow in confidence and "dig deep" to achieve things they never thought possible. We are looking forward now to the assessed expedition on 18-19 June in Rendlesham, where the students will be dropped off at Snape Maltings on the Saturday morning and collected from Orford Quay on Sunday afternoon, camping overnight at the UK's most famous UFO centre near the former RAF Woodbridge.

A massive thank you to all the staff who gave up their time to support our students.  
Mr and Mrs Adams



# Plume Family Mum, changing lives for the better!

After living with chronic pain for over 30 years and suffering from bouts of stress and anxiety, Lara Wiseman, a Plume Family parent, has been able to change her life around and is now helping others, who have been through similar debilitating experiences, to do the same.

Lara, mum to two Plume Academy students, has spent the last five years learning new ways to cope with life and has been studying to become a professional Life Coach. Lara launched her new business during lockdown, and has built a wide portfolio of clients, helping them to create a positive mindset to enable them to tackle problems such as stress, anxiety, phobias, fears and chronic pain.

Living in Maldon, but working with clients from across the UK, Lara has helped people to start living again; not just existing. By teaching how to break old habits held by their unconscious mind, Lara has successfully helped clients overcome limiting beliefs, anxious and overwhelming feelings, lack of motivation, and also improved their communication skills. Lara adopts strategies, such as, affirmations to boost self-esteem; visualisations; journaling; Colour Therapy; Neuro-Linguistic Programming; and calming breathing techniques. Offering clients one-to-one online sessions to help them with their step-by-step journey; Lara guides clients in a safe environment to take control over their fears and anxieties and create powerful positive habits.

Lara is offering a free 30-minute consultation to members of our Plume Family. Please see the contact details below to arrange a convenient Bme for a free consultation.

## **Lara Life Coach**

Master your MIND : Master your LIFE

It all starts with a thought... Let's make it a good one!

To arrange a FREE 30-minute consultation, telephone 0777 3044 158 or visit Lara's website: [www.laralifecoach.co.uk](http://www.laralifecoach.co.uk)



## LAIC Stationery Shop

Did you know the LAIC operates a stationery shop? Whether you are in need of a pen, pencil, maths set or ruler amongst many other things, we can help!

For your everyday stationery needs please drop by - available at MRC, FRC and College.

Biro (black and blue)	20p
Handwriting pen	45p
Gel pen	70p
Highlighter pen	50p
Pencil	15p
Art pencils 3B	30p
Eraser	25p
Sharpener, single	40p
Ruler 15cm	15p
Ruler 30cm	25p
Popper wallet (A5)	50p
Popper wallet (A4)	70p
Clear Pencil Case	75p
Protractor 180°	40p
Protractor 360°	55p
Pritt stick	£1.20
Revision Cards	£1.10
Maths set	£2.00

## Plume working in partnership with the local business community



As we continue to build our links with the local business community, Plume Academy are proud to be associated with Rossi Ice Cream. Sourcing local catering suppliers helps us to secure the best options for our students and staff. Paula Flight our award winning Catering Manager and her team are a very keen advocates of finding and providing the very best quality food found locally. Plume Academy would like to thank Mr Richardson and Rossi Ice Cream for adding their excellent high quality product to our catering offer. Mrs Flight said: "Ice cream is a very popular food option for us and one we are delighted to offer; we are lucky and grateful to be able to provide an opportunity for all our stakeholders to make a purchase on site of this excellent product".



## Year 9 'Friend' theatre performance assembly

On Tuesday afternoon (26<sup>th</sup> April) Year 9 students had a visit from N-Act Theatre Company to perform 'Friend'. The performance was about gangs, county lines, knife crime and the choices we make. The play is set in a courtroom and Yr9 were the jury. The students were able to interact with the characters, asking questions and directing the action to see how making different choices could lead to a different outcome. The performance is based on a true story and Yr9 responded with dignity and respect.

I was proud and impressed by their conduct, interaction with the actors and understanding of the content, especially as this is the first time in over two years that our students have had an external company presenting to the entire year group. The theatre company also commented on the excellent behaviour and respect that was shown throughout the performance as well as the poignant and thoughtful questions they put forward considering the hard-hitting themes contained within this play.

Mr Cooper Personal Development Lead



# International Diversity Culture Club ...here at MRC!!

Every Tuesday after school



3:15 – 4:15

Location: M 08



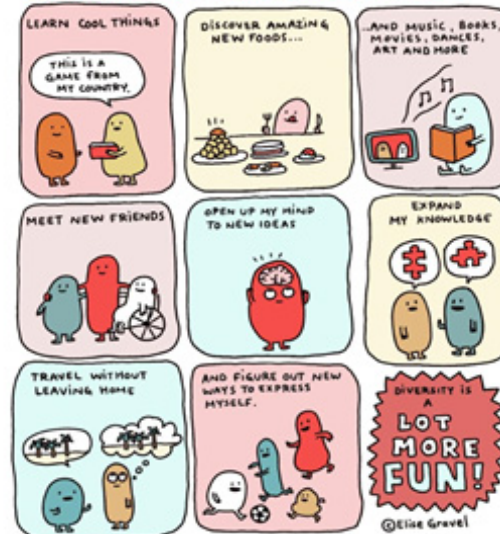
*If you have a multi cultural background yourself, or are simply curious about a particular country and it's culture, come along!*

*Hosts: Deputy Head Girl Natalia Dudek and Deputy Head Boy Charles Brunt*

*(we are looking forwards to meeting you all!)*



## I LOVE DIVERSITY BECAUSE IT ALLOWS ME TO:



### Things we will cover:

- arts & crafts from around the world
- A guide to using chopsticks
- Guest speakers... our very own multi cultural staff
- Show and Tell
- Quizzes/kahoots
- Independent research tasks like leaflet/brochure making
- Watching movies from around the world
- Learning about a particular culture
- And many many more fun filled tasks!





## SEND Reading Recovery Project hits the mark!

The successful Reading Recovery Project launched in October 2021, is now running its third cohort. Since its introduction in the autumn term, the project, which aims to improve students' reading ages and fluency as well as boost their confidence in reading aloud and increase their reading comprehension skills, has grown from one group to now four groups participating.

When the project was first introduced, at Mill Road Campus with Year 7 and 8s, it was delivered by Sixth-Form College student mentors; Grace Salfairso and Archie Smith. Following its success of raising students' confidence in reading and improving their reading ages, the scheme was then introduced to group of Year 9 students in the Spring Term, and now a further two groups of Year 9 students this term.

Each week, students take turns to read aloud and discuss as a group a different element of the stories' structure, such as, character motivation, plot tension and imagery. One session focuses solely on non-fiction books and explores how to find information using the contents page and indices. Students take Accelerated Reading tests after each book to test their comprehension skills, with a STAR Reading test organised by the English department, to measure their improvement in their reading age. Participating students have said that their favourite part of the sessions was "getting to speak about the books together" and "that I read books that I might not have read". Overall, students rated the project four out of five stars!

Mrs Karen Ager, SEND Literacy Coordinator, who organises and delivers the project based on the Duolog Reading Programme, is delighted with the students' engagement in the intervention. Mrs Ager states "so many students lose interest in reading for pleasure, but hearing their enthusiasm for reading and discussing the books in the sessions is wonderful; especially when they tell me they've picked up a book to read at home for the first time in ages because of the intervention!"

The project has seen great collaboration between the SEND team, the Sixth-Form College, the LAIC and the PPG department. More sessions are planned for the new academic year.



The CILIP Carnegie & Kate Greenaway Children's Book Awards

## 'W is for Writer'

On Wednesday 27 April, 47 Year 7-9 students were invited to attend a workshop called 'W is for Writer'. All of the invited students are taking part in the 2022 Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Shadowing Scheme (<https://carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/>), where they have the opportunity to read the books shortlisted for the 2022 awards and submit their own reviews.

The webinar-workshop was hosted by award-winning children's author Tony Bradman and a panel of #CKG22 Shortlistees - Sue Divin, Emily Gravett, Phil Earle and Yu Rong. The workshop looked at what it means to be a writer or illustrator, how you can make it happen, and the practicalities of how to make a living from writing and illustrating.

The workshop was great, and it was brilliant to see our students engaged in such in-depth discussions afterwards, and to hear their thoughts about the books they have read so far.

Well done everyone!

## British Championship Flat Track Competitor Cooper Rushen is a Winner!

Motorcycle Grass track is a form of track racing which typically, in its current form, takes place on a flat track consisting of two straights and two bends usually constructed in a field. It is one of the oldest types of motorcycle sports in the UK. Our very own Cooper Rushen has a natural talent for this type of sport and competes successfully in the British Championships.

Not only that, but he also turns out for his football club Tiptree Heath most weekends. This can lead to very long days traveling between the club he represents when racing and his love of football. Hard working and totally committed Cooper has a very bright future ahead of him on two wheels.

We wish Cooper the very best for the up-and-coming British Championship and his continuing success in the sport.





## BBC Radio 5 Live Presenter Adrian Chiles Interviews Plume Award Winning Teacher

BBC Radio 5 Live listeners got a chance to hear recently about how our Academy has been working with students across the transgender community. Transgender Day of Visibility, March 31, 2022, is dedicated to celebrating transgender people and raising awareness of discrimination faced by the transgender

community worldwide. Mrs A. Ollett, our national award-winning teacher, who is our LGBT and Stonewall Champion, supporting students with this important and vital issue; answered with her usual confident and expert knowledge, questions from 5 live presenter Adrian Chiles. The main topic about how schools can and should support young people facing and dealing with transgender transitioning was brilliantly explained by Mrs Ollett. Schools across the country need to be more confident about this and other issues of this nature and Plume Academy stands proud to be able to do so.

Listen to Mrs Ollett here on BBC Radio 5 live completing her interview with Adrian Chiles available here at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m0015t33>

There are 3 speakers including Mrs Ollett and it starts at 44:10 into the programme.



## 'Two Appeals One Outcome' collection for Ukraine and Afghan Refugees

Plume Academy parents, carers, students and staff responded with extraordinary generosity to an appeal to support fleeing families from Ukraine, and refugee children that have arrived recently to our local area from Ukraine, and refugee children that have arrived recently to our local area from Afghanistan.

Basic essential items and clothing were collected for Ukraine women, children and the elderly crossing the border between their war torn country and Poland. These goods were transported across Europe by a dedicated team of Polish lorry drivers from a central collection point situated locally in the Maldon district

Recently arrived to our area, Afghan refugee children also benefited with much needed donations of warm clothing and footwear. We have over a hundred Afghan families with sixty children currently living locally. In both cases the donations comfortably filled a very large storage room from floor to ceiling.

A spokesperson for the Academy said: "I cannot believe the incredible response to an appeal that only ran for seven days. A lot of the clothing items donated are brand new, unused and in their original packaging."

Plume Academy would like to thank everyone that made a donation to either or both appeals. We are so lucky to live and work in a community determined to play its part to make a difference.





# TERM DATES

2021/2022

## Summer Term

Tuesday 19 April 2022  
- Friday 22 July 2022

## Half Term

Tuesday 31 May - Friday 3 June

## Bank Holidays

Monday 2 May  
Thursday 2 - Friday 3 June

## Staff Training Day

Friday 1 April 2022  
Friday 24 June 2022

# Vinjeru School Trust FUNDRAISING QUIZ NIGHT Saturday 14th May 2022



Where: Fullbridge Church, 27 Fullbridge, Maldon CM9 4LE  
Time: 7.00pm  
How much: £5 pp, but larger donations gratefully received 😊  
Book: Call 07743 754544  
Email: [quiz@vinjerschooltrust.org](mailto:quiz@vinjerschooltrust.org)  
Teams: Max 10. people - make up a team or join one on night

How to pay:  
Bank transfer or Stewardship Online Giving (Ref 'Quiz')  
See website:  
[www.vinjerschooltrust.org](http://www.vinjerschooltrust.org)  
Or cheque or cash! 😊



- \*Soft drinks available throughout evening
- \*Hot drinks & desserts served during interval
- \*Feel free to bring your own drinks & snacks



# Calendar May 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
2 May Day Bank Holiday	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Final payment for Year 11 Prom	14	15
16 Start GCSE and A Level Examinations	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

# Thinking about becoming a qualified teacher?



Find out how you can gain qualified teacher status (QTS), and an optional post-graduate certificate in education (PGCE) through our School Direct initial teacher training programme.

Join the next School Direct open day and get tailored advice

By appointment only  
Contact our ITT Programme Co-ordinator

Call: 01621 854681  
Email: [ITT@plume.essex.sch.uk](mailto:ITT@plume.essex.sch.uk)  
Visit: [www.plumeitt.co.uk](http://www.plumeitt.co.uk)

Our salaried and non-salaried School Direct routes allow you to train in one of our partnership schools, local to you. You'll work as a member of the school team and learn your skills from experienced professionals, supplemented by high quality online learning sessions.



# Absence Calls

Can we please request that all absence calls are made to the academy's dedicated absence line. The numbers are as follow:

**Mill Road Campus – 01621 854681 option 1 option 1**

**Fambridge Road Campus- 01621 854681 option 1 option 2**

Can parents/carers please note that calls should first go to the dedicated absence line and, if required, the Attendance Office will then forward to the respective Head of Years/ Assistant Heads of Year.

If a student is unwell and unable to attend the academy, parents/carers should contact Plume Academy and explain the reason for absence