Pline ARS



ISSUE 1 December 2023





Across the generation Our History Trip to Ypres

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to Ypres



Joint Heads of Academy

Dear Plume Family,

Welcome to the first edition of Plume News! Earlier this year, we took the decision to revamp our wholeacademy newsletter. Plume News will be published termly and will chart, in words and images, the life of the academy over that period.

Each edition will offer a flavour of life at the academy and will feature contributions from pastoral and subject teams. We are really proud of our first edition, but also look forward to improving the magazine each time it is published. To this end, your feedback is always welcome. If you happen to have suggestions for improvement, please do email them to t.baster@plume.essex.sch.uk.

As we write this piece, over seventy of our Year 7 cohort are enjoying a trip to the pantomime and some of our talented Plume College mathematicians have just returned from a day of complex problem-solving at



Cambridge University. 2023 really has been a year where we have seen trips and visits return in earnest; we have also been fortunate to be able to stage some wonderful drama, dance and music events at the academy, including an exceptional production of Matilda earlier this year. We do hope that students continue to enjoy these activities – whenever we are in audience, we do reflect on the generation that missed out on these activities, having attended the academy during the pandemic period. It is our sincere hope that current and future generations of Plume students do not have these experiences taken from them in similar circumstances. We offer our sincere thanks to staff for all their efforts in putting on these experiences for students, and hope that you will enjoy reading reports from some of these excursions later in this magazine.

Indeed, Plume has been very fortunate not to have faced that challenges that other local academies have faced this term. Our tenure as Joint Heads of Academy began just at the point where Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) hit the headlines and our first duty was to commission the survey that declared Plume to structurally safe and RAAC-free. It is not lost on us how challenging an issue RAAC has been in other schools and academies, and we will continue to do all that we can to help.

As I am sure you are aware, the academy also had an Ofsted inspection in late November. Whilst we are still not able to publish the outcomes of the report, we would like, once again to place on record our immense gratitude to all students, staff and parents for their support during the inspection. The students were a credit to the academy, and to their families, and we look forward to sharing the report with you when we receive it. Please note that whilst some time has already elapsed since the inspection, the waiting time is in accordance with the normal operating procedures associated with Ofsted inspections.



Joint Heads of Academy

Many thanks to all parents who completed the Ofsted survey. As part of this, we recognise that small minority did indicate that were unsure where they could find details of what their child would be learning. For clarity, Plume's full curriculum is housed on our website, and can be accessed here:

https://www.plume.essex.sch.uk/curriculum

In addition to this information, we will also now be using this magazine to keep you informed of teaching and learning developments within the academy.

The end of each term inevitably a time of arrivals and departures. To this end, we will shortly be bidding a fond farewell to Mrs Meadows (Physical Education) who has provided 17 years of dedicated service to the academy.



We wish her well in her new role in an academy closer to home. Similarly, we also wish Mrs Russell from our English faculty all the very best as she starts her period of maternity leave.

We will also be saying farewell to Mr and Mrs Bryson who have fulfilled a range of cleaning, administrative and caretaking roles during their time at the academy. We wish them well for the future.

Earlier this half term, we welcomed Mrs Wills and Mrs Wakeford (English) back from maternity leave.

In January we will also welcome the following new members of staff:

Mr Charnock – Faculty Leader, MFL

Miss Lewis – Teacher of Physical Education

Ms Weetch - Reflection Room Supervisor

Ms Samuels – Learning Support Assistant

Mr Burrell – Caretaker

Ms Halsey – HR Administrator

Ms Gray – Invigilator

Ms Moule – Invigilator

Ms Baxter - Cleaner

Finally, we would like to state what an extraordinary honour it has been to lead the academy over this last term. We wish all members of the Plume family all the very best for the festive period.

We look forward to welcoming students back to the academy on Monday 8th January, where we will continue to build on our core values of Ambition, Resilience, Respect and Community.

Mrs R. Clark and Mr T. Baster



Head of Year 7 Mr Farrow

Dear Year 7 Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of an exciting and busy term, it is with great pleasure that I share the highlights and accomplishments of our Year 7 students. This term has been a period of academic growth, forging new friendships, exploring diverse interests, and establishing a close-knit community.

The emergence of new friendships among our Year 7 students is heartwarming. Their embrace of challenges has led to the creation of a support network that is indeed special and the enthusiasm for extracurricular activities, including after-school clubs such as Trampolining, Netball, Music, and Rugby, to name a few, is evident . It's truly fantastic to see so many students actively participating in these opportunities.

The trip to Mountfitchet Castle with the History Department was met with enthusiasm. Hearing about how our students engaged hands-on with the activities was brilliant and credit is due to the History team for organising a successful trip.

There have also been some great successes in the classroom and this has been reflected in the amount of badges Year 7 students have received. As the highlights below show, a massive well done to all students for their efforts with their learning.

Total number of Year 7 badges in Autumn term: 10,047

Top Form: 1. 7GCH (1162), 2. 7KWI (1118), 3. 7SLU (1050)

Top students for Autumn Term: Yu Xin W (82), Georgia W (82),

Jaxon C (79) , Elliot G (77) , Kai K. (77) , Amelia B (72) , Sienna L (71)

Moreover, reflecting on the recent Ofsted inspection, our Year 7 students displayed exemplary behaviour that exceeded expectations. Their conduct not only met the standards but exceeded them significantly. Kudos to our students for being outstanding ambassadors for Plume Academy.

A special acknowledgment is due to Miss Booth, whose dedication has been a guiding light for our Year 7 students. Additionally, a thank you extends to all the tutors who have provided unwavering support to the year group through the Autumn term.

Miss Booth says...

It has been such a pleasure meeting our new year group, who continue to impress and amaze us on a daily basis, with their enthusiasm towards their learning and one another. It has been a great joy getting to know all of their personalities and watching our students start their secondary school journey. Miss Booth - Assistant Head of Year 7







Furthermore a congratulations to **Alex C, Eliza C, Amelia T,** and **Kaitlyn W** on their appointments as Year 7 Lead Students. We commend their leadership and look forward to the positive impact they will have on our school community. A heartfelt thank you to all students who applied, showcasing their commitment and enthusiasm

We would also like to congratulate **Isabelle L** for receiving the Jack Petchey award.

Top 10 Year 7 Students for Behaviour for Learning Scores:

A well done to these students who achieved incredible BFL in their first Plume Academy progress review.

- -7PHO Saskia O -7JDE Oliver G
- 7ASC Scarlett G 7ASC Thomas S-R
- 7SLU Chloe W 7ASC Georgia W
- 7PHO Jessica D 7SSE Zoe H
- 7SLU Kai K 7EMH Alice K
- 7AMU Cadence R

Autumn Year 7 Quiz Winners:

- 1st Place: 7SLU
- 2nd Place: 7PHO & 7TDU
- 3rd Place: 7ASC

In conclusion, the first term has been nothing short of remarkable. We take pride in the academic achievements, the bonds formed, and the positive atmosphere resonating through our Year 7 community.

A sincere thank you for your continued support.

Here's to the exciting adventures that lie ahead in our Spring term.





Ambition Respect Resilience Community

Head of Year 8 Mr Downes

Welcome Back

I do hope this first edition of the Plume Newsletter finds you well; and that you and your families are coping well with the falling temperatures!

It has been very pleasing to see our Year 8 group settle in well in their roles as the older students here at our Mill Road Campus, the Year 7 team have commented that our students are supporting the newer Year 7 students in their transition and their responsible attitudes have been noticed by Mrs Southgate and I on multiple occasions so please allow me to commend the year group on adopting this caring and mature attitude. Our students are frequently displaying the Respect, Resilience, Ambition and Community values that we are often so proud of them for.

Students continue to perform admirably in our year group, earning 1040 badges across the year group since October half term, a fantastic achievement. We also have several students who have become 'Word Millionaires', having read over a million words. We also have some "Double Word Millionaires' and even one 'Tripe Work Millionaire!' Congratulations are also in order for our new Lead Students—Alex S, Katie K, Ed L and Nathan S.

Overall it has been an overwhelmingly positive start to the year; and we look forward to seeing the students continue on their paths to success. There will be many opportunities for students to demonstrate their excellence in the near future—watch this space!

Mrs Southgate Says...

Well done to our Year 8 students for working hard during the first term. You have shown the new Year 7 students how to behave and present themselves well, inside and outside of the academy. You have been kind and supportive to our new students and helped them to settle into the Plume way of life.

I now look forward to supporting you through your mini options and

transition to Year 9 in the new year. You are showing a maturity that will stand you in good stead at our

Fambridge Road site.

I wish you and your families a Happy Christmas Get some rest and come back ready to take on the challenges we have in 2024.

> Mrs J Southgate— Assistant Head of Year 8







Up & Coming

As we look ahead to the other side of Christmas and New Year, along with the students' usual studies there are some upcoming choices that our Year 8 students will need to be lending some thinking time to—mainly, their Mini-Options process.

Mini-Options

In January, the students will need to start the process of choosing their optional classes for the remainder of the academic year. This process is intended to be a practice for when the students select their GCSE courses at the end of Year 9.

The students will be presented with the option of selecting specific subject choices—namely, their choice in Expressive Arts and Technology. The amount of subjects they will be able to choose will depend on their current timetable, but we hope that giving students the choice it will give them a good idea of what to expect come the end of Year 9, as well as further empower the students to make responsible choice in regard to their learning journey here at Plume.

Letters will of course go out to parents and carers after the Christmas break explaining the process, but for now it would be a good idea for the students to begin to consider their feelings towards certain subjects.

Please do take care and stay safe over the upcoming break; enjoy your time however you are spending and on behalf of Mrs Southgate and I, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. See you all on January 8th!

"I don't think Christmas is necessarily about 'things'. It's about being good to each other." - Carrie Fisher



Ambition Respect Resilience Community

6 Plume News

Head of Year 9 Mr Perry

The inaugural term in Year 9 marks a significant juncture in a student's educational journey. It is a time of adaptation, embracing new environments, and laying the groundwork for the forthcoming stages. This year, our cohort of Year 9 students has seamlessly transitioned into a new campus, have started to embrace exciting prospects like GCSE options, and exhibited remarkable achievements across sports, including the exceptional tale of Cooper Rushen, our very own Jack Petchey winner.



The transition to a new campus often presents challenges, yet our Year 9 students have demonstrated resilience and adaptability. Embracing the change, they've navigated through a new environment with remarkable ease. As the first term draws to a close, anticipation and excitement fill the air with the up-coming GCSE Open Evening in January. Year 9 students are eagerly exploring their academic passions and interests, contemplating the subjects that will shape their educational trajectory. The guidance provided by their teachers and the pastoral team will be pivotal in assisting students in making informed decisions about their academic pursuits, ensuring they align with their aspirations and strengths.

Sports have played a significant role in shaping the first term for our Year 9 students. Both boys and girls have showcased exceptional talent and dedication across various sporting activities. From the fast-paced thrill of football to the strategic finesse of rugby and the agility demanded by netball, our



students have excelled, displaying teamwork, discipline, and sportsmanship. The extracurricular sports activities have not only provided avenues for physical fitness but also instilled valuable life lessons about teamwork, perseverance, and the rewards of dedication. One standout highlight of this term has been the inspiring achievement of Cooper R, who has emerged as our very own Jack Petchey winner. Cooper's dedication, commitment, and contribution to his craft has set a remarkable example for his peers. His accomplishments serve as a testament to the values of hard work and determination that we strive to instil in all our students.

Looking Ahead

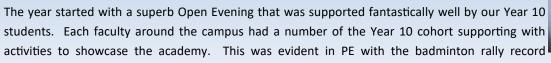
As we reflect on the successes and experiences of the first term, it becomes evident that Year 9 has embarked on an enriching journey. The enthusiasm of the students, and the spirit of the school community have been instrumental in shaping a positive and promising start to this academic phase. With the groundwork laid and achievements celebrated, the Year 9 cohort stands on the brink of a new chapter. As they delve into their GCSE options and continue to excel in academics, sports, and extracurricular endeavours, we remain committed to nurturing their growth, guiding their aspirations, and witnessing their continued success.

The first term has been a testament to their potential, and we eagerly await the promising future that lies ahead for our Year 9 students.



Head of Year 10 Mr Rose

Welcome to all parents, carers and students of Year 10! What a start to the year it has been. The transition from a Year 9 student into fully-fledged GCSE student has been a real eye opener for many of you but I can honestly say the start you have all made has been fantastic. I also include the parents and carers in this one, the support you all give Mrs Rhodes and I with helping to run this fine year group is exceptional. I am a very proud Head of Year and each time I run an assembly I do so with the enthusiasm I feel coming from the students.



competition dominated by Nina R-L or the renditions of some of the bet music and acting from Matilda or quirky science experiments being run alongside the Science Faculty. All in all it was a great evening and even better as I experienced it for the first time as a parent myself as I walked around with my son as a perspective student! Thank you to all the Year 10 students that evening who made it a very special one for him.

Our leadership team were also introduced this term and it gives me great pleasure to congratulate publicly Emma B, Isla S, Archie C and Lucas C on their Leadership roles within Year 10 ably supported by Poppy A and Henry S. Already being in-



volved in numerous tours and welcoming committees this team will also be active in the upcoming Student Voice and Year Group feedback sessions. They are a great team of students that will definitely add to the whole academy Student Leadership Team.

It was great to see so many parents and carers at our Year 10 Information Evening and as I stated in the very first paragraph, the support you show the academy, and the students is second to none. This level of commitment to the students will bear great fruit as we move through the year heading towards Year 10 exams and preparation for Year 11. Parents Evening will be in the New Year and will be another chance for parents to familiarise themselves with GCSE teachers and get a real insight into how your children have started their GCSE journey.



Head of Year 10 Mr Rose

Students have already been involved in Drama recitals, exams and there has been a number of students in various subjects working on coursework. The step up in academic study has been wonderful to see. Students have really matured into top GCSE candidates, and it is a pleasure to be leading the year group and be involved in visiting many subjects to see them in action. Our Year 10 students show a real passion for learning in all their options subjects, but I have also had the pleasure of interacting with them during 'An Inspector Calls' in English which makes me reminisce about my own GCSE and A-Level English lessons as I studied the very same play!

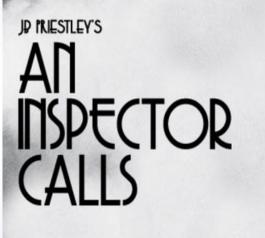


Many of our Year 10 students were also involved in the academy Remembrance Day march and with their respective cadets' services for Remembrance Sunday and they, as they always do, did themselves and us very proud on such a moving event.

On a sporting front the girls took part in the Mid-Essex football tournament hosted by Plume and were supported during

the lunch hour by over 600 watching spectators as they finished 5th overall. The girls netball team have also competed in a number of fixtures and the boys football team managed to finish in the top 64 teams in the country with over 2000 schools entering the National Football Cup. A huge achievement for the boys team who are also still on a cup run in the county cup.

As we move into the New Year I will close by asking students and parents alike





to start to turn a focus to Work Experience and start thinking about the type of placement that can be done. It is an amazing chance for students to take on a 'proper job' and be within a workspace that may turn into a career. One such story from Maldon and Plume is Judge Briony Clarke, who, after working in a law firm for her work experience, fell in love with the idea of becoming involved in Law that she went on to become the youngest female Judge in the UK! Please do not underestimate the power of the opportunity of Work Experience as it can lead onto something worthwhile.



Have a great and well-earned Christmas Holiday and I look forward to seeing you all back on January 8th 2024!

Happy Christmas to everyone!



Head of Year 11 Mr Chauhan

Welcome to your first edition newsletter for Year 11.

Our students have approached Year 11 with a most impressive attitude, maturity and a self- belief. This is a critical mindset that we require to achieve the best success for them all. Certainly, our four core principles of Ambition, Respect, Resilience and Community are in the forefront our of daily drive for our students in Year 11.

Our assemblies play a huge part in developing our students personal, social, moral development, we have covered many aspects some including Israel conflict, climate change, human rights and black History Month. On top of this we have worked on our students and how to improve and develop their resilience following their mock exam period.



We have had our Head boy/ Head girl and the leadership team which includes Jessie Gill, Callum Hayden Nickols, Isabella Olenka and Amber Sawyer were introduced to the academy. Our elected students went through a rigorous application process. We are very confident that they will all play a huge and vital part in helping the academy and the students in the school vision.



Students have been attending extra curricula support sessions in Maths, English, Science and option subjects which have been extremely well attended. Students have been fully engaged and recognise the importance of the additional hours needed for their own success leading to the final exams in the summer.

This term our Year 11 students have completed their Mock exams in all of their subjects. These took

place from the 14th November through until the 3rd December. Students were given the best possible experience on how the summer exams would look like whilst giving them the best opportunity for success. We really want to ensure that students learn from these experiences so that they can have the maximum impact for the Spring mock exams.



Head of Year 11 Mr Chauhan

We continue to recognise the huge importance of Year 11 and how we can support all our parent and carers. Plume Academy has held three evenings for our parents and cares. Our first evening which was held on the 28th September introduced and informed our parent and carers and students on how to deal with being in Year 11 and how to make the most of every day.

Our second evening was our Plume College Open Evening 6th October, which showcased our excellent learning facilities Plume. We are extremely thankful for the extremely high attendance that evening which demonstrated how popular our College is to our students.

Our third evening was how to revise and make the best of out of revision techniques targeted for our students More Able Learners. The Revision Strategy was held on the evening of Thursday 2nd November. The structure of the night consisted of:

- The theory and research behind effective revision
- Effective revision in Mathematics
- Revision strategies for English
- Preparing for top grades in Science

These techniques and resources will also be worked on with the rest of the Year 11 cohort.

On Monday 11th December we were extremely excited to a introduce the Prom for 2024 to our Yr. 11 students. Parents/carers have received a letter informing them of the Prom date and how we intend to run our Prom lives and we have also shared information on how the students can purchase memorable keep sales from their time at the Plume Academy.

After the Christmas break, we want to secure our destinations for all our Year 11 students. We are strongly encouraging the Year

11's to complete application for further study. Many of our Year 11s have already completed applications for Plume College. It is critical that all students make these important applications by the set deadlines. The Plume Academy deadline is the 12 January 2024.

Autumn Progress Review reports for your child have bow been completed by all staff by the 15th December. All parents and carers will receive a progress report for your child after the new year. We hope that this will provide you and your child with the valuable action points to progress further. We also look forward to Parents Consultation evening on the 25th January 2024. This evening will provide valuable insight into next step actions for your child's success for all include subject areas. This is such an important evening for both students and parent and carers.

Lastly, I want to say once again how impressed I have been with our students. I am delighted with their mature attitude but their drive for success and best of their opportunities presented to them.







Head of College Mr Hallam

Reflecting on the journey of this term, we were delighted to see the return of our Year 13s after a successful set of AS results which placed their progress in the top 10% of the country. It has also been a pleasure to witness the remarkable start made by our Year 12 students. Their zest for learning and engagement has set a vibrant tone for the academic year. A large part of our Year 12 is made of external students who completed their GCSE's at other local schools. It has been great seeing them integrate into the Plume College family and they have made a fantastic start.

Throughout this first term, our students have had the opportunity to





take part in a number of events. Year 13 students had the privilege of attending the UK University & Apprenticeship Fair at the Tottenham Hotspur

Stadium, an event that broadened their horizons, exposing them to diverse educational avenues and career paths. I went to the fair with them and it was fantastic to see so many of our students engaging with the variety of exhibitors, with many taking the opportunity to network with potential universities or employers.

The Geography field trip to Snowdonia stands out as a memorable experience. The way the Year 13 students



immersed themselves in the natural world, conducted fieldwork, and embraced the beauty of their surroundings was a testament to their curiosity and dedication (and the weather certainly tested their resilience!).

The opportunities provided to our Law and Criminology students were invaluable. In October, we hosted the Assistant Chief Constable for a session detailing her career path and working for Essex Police. In addition, Mr Underwood facilitated thought-provoking lessons with a Detective Constable from Essex Police showing students the process of solving a real-life crime. Both of these activities were highlights, offering practical insights beyond the classroom and into the world of policing.



Head of College Mr Hallam

Throughout this term, our Year 12 cohort has diligently honed their study skills and embraced the A Level mindset through a series of tailored enrichment lessons. Witnessing their growth in approach and mindset has been truly rewarding and it's great to see so many of them adapting so well to the challenges of A Level's. Our Year 13 students completed the financial module of enrichment. The financial prowess displayed by some of our students through their investment choices has been impressive, with some selecting shares that surged over 27% in value!

Year 13 students are in the final stages of completing their personal statements and sending off their UCAS applications. It's heartening to see them on the verge of taking the next steps towards their higher education journey. Those not applying to university have received bespoke support in choosing and ap-



plying to employment opportunities and apprenticeships, I'm excited for the New Year and the new opportunities this will present. If any student, parent or carer would like to be regularly updated job/ apprenticeship opportunities, please join our Microsoft Team using this QR code.

As we look back on this term, it's evident that our students have embraced opportunities, grown academically and personally, and have made significant strides towards their future endeavours. The support and dedication exhibited by our students and staff alike have been the driving force behind this term's accomplishments. Looking ahead, we are excited to continue guiding and supporting our students as they navigate their educational paths. The New Year will bring more CEIAG opportunities, more guest speakers and more trips that will inspire our students and help them to make key decisions about their Post-18 options.

From all the members of the College Team, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





College Student Leadership

Hattie Phillips – Head Girl

Despite only being a couple of months into the new academic year, so much has been done by the Executive Student Leadership Team. Both the Head Boy and I attended the recent commemorations for Remembrance Sunday, both at the school that took place on the Friday 11th November and the Maldon Parade on Sunday 12th. As part of this memorial, we spoke a tribute to the soldiers alongside the Head Girl and Head Boy of Maldon Court Primary School and it was a privilege to speak with such eloquent young people. They had already previously met with us before the day when we got a tour of their lovely school. This term the academy has also had a visit from Ofsted, as part of our role we had to greet the inspectors each morning as a welcome to the academy. Throughout the period they were here, Mo and I had a meeting with one of the inspectors alongside a few of the Student Leads from

each year group to have an open discussion about the importance of the Student Leadership Team and how they help to bring about change within the academy. Before Christmas, we have some other academy events to attend in the lead up to the end of the first term, and I can tell that there is much more to come in the Spring term as we move onto bringing about some plans we have into reality.

Mo Shorney – Head Boy

As Head Boy, one of the roles that both the Head Girl and I have, alongside the Deputies, is to elect the student leads for each year group. This means having individual interviews with a large range of students



across the academy. It was inspiring to see so many passionate students who all had a drive to bring about change to their school. It was an incredibly hard decision to make but it was of vital importance to have the best possible support for the school in the next academic year. Once we had selected the students, it was time for our first meeting. We split into working groups to be as efficient as possible, they consist of learning, wellbeing, environment and diversity and each group set out an action plan for the year to try and bring about the change we have spoken about. I know that the next

term is going to be full of bringing these action conversations into place within the Academy and I look forward to seeing how this develops.



College Student Leadership

Jessica Watkin – Deputy Head Girl

This first term has been very productive and successful for the Executive Student Leadership Team and I look forward to what the rest of the year brings us. We conducted interviews with many aspiring students where we had to pick only four Student Leads for each year group. We were so impressed with everyone's interview, so this wasn't an easy process. We also attended the Academy's Open Evening and the College Open Evening. For the whole academy evening, we conducted tours around the school and greeted families as they entered and for the college evening, we all spoke in a large presentation about our reasons for joining the college. For the Ofsted inspection, the team and I arrived early to greet the inspectors into our academy. I have thoroughly enjoyed this term and look forward to what's to come next term! Have a lovely Christmas.

Felix Challis-Martin – Deputy Head Boy

The first term of the new academic year has come with many opportunities and experiences. Over the past weeks, the College's Executive Leadership Team and I hosted interview panels with younger candidates who wished to be a part of Plume's Leadership Team over the next academic year. We met with many students across each year group, who each showed passion and love for the academy, making the decision a more than difficult one. We also had our first meeting with each year group at the Mill Road campus, in which we constructed four groups, each with a different aim. Each group created an action plan with a set of targets to achieve over the year. Reflecting on last year, Jess



and I were fortunate to attend the Sports Awards Evening, where we had the pleasure of congratulating each of the students as well as thanking our special guest, Anton Ferdinand for attending and being such an inspiration.



Welcome to PE NEWS

The Autumn Term has seen a hugely significant number of fixtures across a wide range of sports. We are pleased to report a number of successes for a range of our teams in our winter sports programme with many of these ongonig into the latter stages of cup competitions at the time of writing. We have also further extended our competitive opportunities by entering the National Badminton competition (which you can read about further down). This year has also seen the re-introduction of Cheerleading, which has proven to be hugely popular.

Attendance and numbers attending our extra-curricular clubs have been outstanding, with Girls and Boys Football, Rugby and Netball being particlarly high. The Spring Term edition of the Academy newsletter will have a particular focus on our Gifted and Talented PE students and their individual successes. But for now, enjoy reading about our teams progress across the Autumn Term.

Mr Ainscough Head of PE

<u>Fixture Statistics</u> An impressive 84 fixtures played this term even with the challenges of the weather. We played 60 Boys fixtures including Rugby, Football and Basketball & 23 Girls fixtures including Netball, badminton & football which including hosting 2 girls football tournaments here at Plume. We also participated in mixed events such as Cross-country. Our total wins percentage was 51%

Boys Extra-Curricular Sport

Football Year 7 have begun their football programme extremely well, with around 30 students regularly committing to weekly training. To date, the A team reached the third round of both the Essex and National Cup competitions, with many more league fixtures to come. We are also hoping to provide a range of competitive fixtures for B, C and D teams.

<u>Year 8</u> Good start to the year for the Year 8 Boys Football team. Reached the 3rd round of the national cup beating a notoriously good Great Baddow team in the second round. Currently still in the Essex Cup which is in the Last 16 stage. Game to be played next week with the winners going to the quarter final. Played 3 MESSA league games so far due to success in cup competitions winning 2 and drawing 1.



<u>The Year 9 team</u> have successfully reached round 5 of the National Cup in some fiercely fought games. We face Woodlands School. Lost on penalties to Colne Academy in the Essex Cup, reaching the 3rd round

Year 10 have had a great season so far securing wins in all competitions. We had a historic 9-0 victory vs local rivals Ormiston Rivers of Burnham in the district cup before succumbing to Anglo 1-3 in the quarter finals. a great win in the county cup vs Boswells 3-2 means we have Bromfords in round 3 after Christmas and we had a great National cup run beating Gable Hall, Philip Morant and then an exciting penalty shootout victory vs Thomas Mills school of Framlingham making the last 64 teams out of over 2000 entries! Unfortunately, the run came to an end with defeat after a long trip to Debenham School in Suffolk. A great team ethic and some memories made this year, we look forward to attacking the county cup in 2024!

<u>Year 11</u> The year 11 football team have made a really good start to their final year at Plume, competing in both the Essex and MESSA Cup. In the MESSA cup, we eliminated Beaulieu 4-2 and have Shenfield awaiting us in the next round. In the Essex Cup, we are now through the 3rd round, beating Beckett Keys and Epping St John's in doing so. We host Debden with a place in the Quarter Finals up for grabs.

<u>Rugby</u>

Y7 – They have played in 2 MESSA tournaments finishing second in both competitions, playing 8 games in total. They Have also played in a Friendly against Chelmer Vally winning 25-10 with Callum Crouchman scoring a Hatrick.

Y8 – They have also played in 2 MESSA tournaments again finishing second in both competitions. They have recently had a lot of new additions to the team and it's great to see the increasing popularity and interest in Rugby from the Y8's.

Y9 – This year they are currently unbeaten, playing 4 games with 3 wins and 1 draw. They have beaten William-De-Ferrers, Boswells, and Great Baddow, and they had a hard thought contest against Chelmer Vally which ended 15-15. The results speak for themselves as the Y9's enthusiasm and dedication to Rugby this year has been unbelievable, with 25+ Y9's turning up to training week in, week out.

<u>Girls Rugby</u> – We have also been running girls Rugby club this half-term, it's been great to see them engaging within rugby and developing their Rugby skills as the term has gone on.





Basketball Exciting times for the Year 8 basketball team as they look to compete in the NBA Jr league for the first time in Plume history. They will be representing the Pheonix Suns for this competition and have been putting in hours of practice in preparation for the many fixtures happening after the Christmas break. Good luck to Will Hopkins, Liam Little, Joe Hazell, Oliver Crickmore, Max Walton, Myles Dolphin, Charlie Jarvis, Charlie Gillan and Harry R Kirby.

Girls Extra-Curricular Sport

Football Special mention to Megan Cane Y10 and Hermione Andrews Y9 who plan and lead KS3 girls football club sessions. They also successfully team manage the KS3 teams.

Also, special mention to Millie Marks Y10 and Megan Cane Y10 who have successfully completed their refereeing qualification and give up their time freely to referee school games.

Plume Academy successfully organised and hosted the U13 & U15 MESSA girls football tournaments this term. Our U15 team finished 4th in their group and the U13 team finished 5th in their group.

The U14 Girls football team travelled to play Saffron Walden County High School in the Essex Cup. Although the team lost the game it was their first experience of 11 a-side football. Their performance in the second half proved how quickly they adapted to playing on the full size pitch (first half lost 4-0, second half drawn 1-1 so overall lost 5-1). The U13 girls football team are playing in the Essex Cup this Thursday against Orminston.

All year groups continue to play in MESSA league games during the winter 2023-24 season.



Ambition Respect Resilience Community

<u>**Trampolining**</u> Katrina Jones, Y12 representing Plume Academy came 7th at the Eastern Regional Trampolining Competition.

<u>Badminton</u> This term marked the return of the National Schools Badminton Competition after Covid. One of the last Sports

competitions to re-emerge. We entered boys and girls teams into the Key Stage 3 and 4 competitions.

Boys teams:

<u>The Key Stage 3 team</u> (Charlie Keen, Freddie Didhams, Soham Patel, Albert Crates & Joe Gray)



played Coopers first team in the first round winning 5-1 to progress to the county round. They then played Coopers 2nd team in the County round and lost 6-0.

<u>The Key Stage 4 team</u> (Lewis Cowley, Finn Glover, Will Randall & Henry Crates) played Coopers Co and Coburn School. The team lost 6-0.

Girls teams:

<u>The Key Stage 4 team</u> (Isobelle Larrard, Melis Pavett, Emily Gager and Summer Louise Fairchild) and the Key Stage 3 team (Pippa Ruffy, Poppy Slater, Daisy Bruce, Emmi Hunt, Sofia Mansfield, Evie Thornloe, Hermione Andrews) played Coopers Co and Coburn School, Upminster`. The Key Stage 4 team lost 6-0 and the Key Stage 3 team lost 5-1.



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Ambition Respect Resilience Community

<u>Netball</u>

All year groups have competed in numerous netball fixtures through the Autumn Term within the MES-SA league. Very mixed results, but with over 50 coming to extra-curricular club, students are clearly enjoying the sport!

Stand out performances include 2nd place for the Year 7 Team at the B Team district tournament.

Cheerleading

The return of the cheerleading club has been extremely successful, with over 50 students attending trial sessions across the first half term and coming along to learn new skills. The team have been working extremely hard, which was shown through their outstanding performance at the Expressive Arts showcase. The team are now beginning to learn new and more complex skills with the hopes of competing at local and national competitions in the future.

MESSSA Cross Country

Well done to Maya Butcher who finished 19th, and Owen Elderton who finished 20th in the year 7 district cross country championships. Ethan Barwell finished 20th in the junior boys race, with Albert Crates 42nd and Gabel Bell 43rd . Sophie Beuamont had a good run finishing 49th in the inter girls race.

In October, all Year 7 and 8 students took part in cross country lessons. Well done to our champions in each year group:

Year 7 Girls	Year 7 Boys	Year 8 Girls	Year 8 Boys
Maya Butcher	Freddie Purdy	Scarlett Davis	Gabe Bell
Darcy Larken	Owen Elderton	Elin Chapman	Charlie Gillan
Amelia Beasley	Lucas Pemble	Amelia Brown	Max Sorial





U14 MESSA League Girls Team

Ambition Respect Resilience Community

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U14 Girls Essex Cup team & U15 MESSA tournament team photograph



Ambition Respect Resilience Community

Teaching and Learning at Plume

Teaching and Learning at Plume

Plume Academy is very fortunate to have a dedicated and knowledgeable team of teaching staff. Since March 2023, we have been using Rosenshine's Principles as a tool for planning, delivering and evaluating our work in the classroom.

Rosenshine's Principles provide a simple framework for the exploration of teaching and learning. A central motif of the principles is the idea that students should be trained to recall information via various methods, including daily, weekly and monthly review, questioning and independent practice.

We consider these principles to be vitally important at Plume, as we prepare students to sit content-

heavy examinations at GCSE, A Level, and in the range of vocational subjects we offer at Key Stages 4 and 5. In order for students to succeed in these examinations, our curriculum needs to regularly check that students are retaining knowledge as their course progresses.

As a result, our staff have been working hard to incorporate recall activities into lessons, via lesson starters and regular questioning. This approach explores how much students have retained from previous lessons.

In these examples from Mathematics, students complete short 'Development Tasks' at the start of lessons, where they solve problems using material covered in previous lessons:

Another source of consolidation, is, of course, home learning. In order to en-

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sure that students are given every opportunity to consolidate learning from the term, the Plume Passport initiative has been launched. In this activity, students complete revision and practice activities in

English, Mathematics and Science. We have also recently introduced a 'Long Haul' version, encouraging students to do the same in other subjects. Please do encourage your child to complete these activities, as data shows that students make significant extra progress when they do.



Teaching and Learning at Plume

Teaching and Learning at Plume

Finally, in September, all teaching staff received a copy of Teaching WalkThrus by Tom Sherrington and Oliver Caviglioli.



Images produced from <u>www.teacherhead.com</u> (Tom Sherrington's professional website). This innovate booklet provides a weekly CPD focus for all staff, focussed on the delivery of Rosenshine's Principles. At our training day in September, staff explored the merits and demerits of 'Cold Calling' – the process of asking questions to students, but at random, without asking the students to raise their hand. Such an approach, when used effectively, encourages the learner to listen carefully to information, as they know they may be required to answer a question on what has just been taught.

If you would like to find out more information about the WalkThru series, please find a link to an information video made by the authors:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xCkn80 OWIA

We look forward to sharing more about the Plume approach to teaching and learning with you in future editions.





Year 9 trip to Ypres 29.9.23



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Ambition Respect Resilience Community

Year 9 trip to Ypres 29.9.23

On the morning of 29th September, 150 Year 9 students braved a very early start, a tremendous amount of rain, and a long coach ride to head to western Flanders, Belgium. Year 9 have been learning about the diverse experiences of the First World War, and here was an opportunity to see for them-selves the battlefields where those very experiences were felt.

The Belgian countryside is very peaceful; but every now and then there are stark reminders of the sacrifices that had been made as, dotted around the farmlands, clusters of gravestones would appear. Year 9 visited three of the larger cemeteries.

The first of these was Essex Farm Cemetery, just outside the town of Ypres. This was the cemetery in which John McCrae wrote his famous poem, 'In Flanders Fields'. For one student, the Cemetery held a particular significance: as we walked in between the white tombstones, Tommy Hewitt located his own greatgreat grandfather. It was a powerful moment that, for many, brought the conflict much closer to home. It reminded all of us of the real consequences that global conflict had on ordinary people.



At Essex Farm, over 1200 casualties are memorialised - mostly British and Canadian soldiers. From here, students travelled to Langemark Cemetery, where they saw a very different way in which the First World War is commemorated. Langemark is a mostly German burial site, where more than 44,000 are buried, and here was an opportunity for students to see how other nations remember their war dead. Here, there are no upstanding white, gleaming tombstones. Instead, the graves are marked with flat black stones. The atmosphere was a blunt contrast to Essex Farm. Talking to many students, they noticed that it did not have the same sense of sacrifice for a greater purpose. Rather, a lot of them commented that the black, flat stones showed a much

stronger impression that so many lives had been lost for simply no good reason.



Year 9 trip to Ypres 29.9.23

The third and final cemetery was also the largest: Tyne Cot. To reach the site, students must walk first through a visitors' centre, and then along a long stone wall. Once they turned the corner, and saw the rows and rows of graves, the impact was felt immediately as many students stared in disbelief at the site before them. 20,000 fallen soldiers are buried here, with a further 34,000 names inscribed on the walls that surround the cemetery. At this site, the Year 9 students were struck particularly by the ages of the soldiers inscribed on the graves. Most were in their twenties, but there were others that said "aged 18" and "aged 17". One student even found a soldier as young as 16. Whilst at Tyne Cot, Year

9 stood in respectful silence in memory of those who had fallen.

In the course of the day, the students were able to experience for themselves what a trench system looked like. We visited the **Hooge Crater** Museum, where they were able to walk through reconstructions of British and German trenches, as well as learn about how these small Belgian towns were impacted and, in



some cases, utterly destroyed by the War.

One such town that saw extensive rebuilding after the War was Ypres itself, which Year 9 headed to in the evening for the memorial service at the Menin Gate. This service, consisting of readings, the Last Post, and a commemorative silence, takes place every day in the town. It was an honour and privilege for Year 9 to be present, and for some of our students to take part in the service itself. Emily Seabright, Pheobe Plummer, Joe Long and Tommy Hewitt laid wreaths at the Gate on behalf of Plume Academy, and Tommy read to the crowd the powerful message of the Exhortation, which will remain with all of us always...

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. We will remember them.



Jack Petchey Award Winners 2023



Jack Petchey Award Winners Autumn 2023. The Jack Petchey Achievement Award Scheme enables Plume Academy to recognise, reward and celebrate the achievements of students who show great pride in what they do, or have contributed to the Academy or local community in a significant way.



More Jack Petchey Award Winners 2023

Megan Year 10

Megan Cane has been nominated for this Jack Petchey Award as she is an excellent role model, has overcome personal adversity, volunteers to coach at the Plume academy Girls football and netball clubs Tuesday and Thursday every week, officiates matches and confidently and competently takes on the role of team manager at Plume Academy fixtures.

She is an exceptional young person who embodies the true essence of leadership. She has suffered a very serious injury. In the face of adversity she has shown remarkable strength. She has demonstrated that she is able to rise above her considerable challenges.

She is a very determined and positive individual. She has led her peers during PE lessons as well as giving up considerable amounts of her time to coach our younger students. She carefully plans all of her coaching sessions and has gained the respect of all staff and students she works with. In her role as team manager she plans her team formations sensitively and skilfully involves all players. She is definitely a role model and without

doubt shows great dedication. She is also very committed to her academic studies and thoroughly deserves this recognition. A worthy winner indeed!

Cooper Year 9

Cooper wins this award for being an excellent role model and showing great dedication to sport.

This young superstar is going from strength to strength in his journey in motor sport, for someone

who has achieved so much at such a young age, he is an incredibly modest and humble person who, in his words, "is just enjoying travelling the world with his friends". At the mere age of 13, Cooper has competed at National, European and World level and is already a 10-time British Champion, with 3 of those championship wins coming this year alone. During these championship wins, it has seen him compete against people that are 3 years older than him.

His skill set allows him to not only compete, but win in a multitude of different racing events, ranging from grass track to speedway motor cycle racing. The achievements listed are probably enough for most adults, let alone a 13year-old boy. But on top of them, he was offered a contract by Red Bull Racing, which further highlights just how talented this young man is.

This young athlete takes it all in his stride. He is incredibly modest. A genuine and well organised young man who balances the demands of racing for the GB team and school life. A great future lies ahead of him! Well done







Jack Petchey Award Winners

Isabelle Year 7

Isabelle is a dedicated and hard working pupil who always gives 100% in her English lessons. She gets involved in lessons and always wants to share her ideas showing a high level of maturity and knowledge of all things happening in our world.

In her free time, Isabelle writes her own short stories – she is a particular fan of the horror/gothic genre and has written multiple pieces of work showing sheer creativity and imagination. Isabelle confidently brings in these stories to show both staff and her friends. She would like to be an author in the future and hopes to have the success of one of her short stories published.



As well as writing her own stories in her free time, she is an avid member

of our school book club and shows a passion for reading and writing that goes beyond just a classroom hobby.

Oliver Year 13

Oliver is a wonderfully talented and gifted Graphic Communication student. He is thoughtful, intelligent and very highly motivated. He gives his time freely and generously both inside and outside the classroom.(among his many talents is running the social media marketing of one of the local football clubs).

His communication skills are extremely well developed. He is articulate and can explain complex issues and ideas fluently to a high degree of precision both orally and in written form. His powers of analysis are superb, and his work always demonstrates a high degree of insight and critical understanding. Throughout the course his final outcomes have been delivered with a great deal of independence and balance. Oliver takes a great deal of pride in presenting everything that he does to the highest possible standard. He never settles for second best and is always meticulous in his attention to detail. To summarise Oliver is very committed to all aspects of the subject demon-



strating exceptional standards of motivation, determination, initiative and perseverance. He is the ideal student and a fantastic role model for others to follow. A worthy Jack Petchey award winner



Lets Talk Trash 2023



Braxted Park hosted 300 Plume Academy Year 7 students at the trailblazing 'Let's Talk Trash' festival 2023 in a bid to shift behavioural change towards littering. Watch the video here of our students enjoying the day out! <u>https://www.braxtedpark.co.uk/lets-talk-trash/</u>

In collaboration with Maldon District Council, Essex County Council and Plume Academy, Braxted Park Estate hosted the region's first 'Let's Talk Trash' Festival on Tuesday 18th July. Over 300 students aged

11-13 flocked to the grounds of the estate to take part in a number of exciting and engaging activities designed to shift behavioural change around littering, raise awareness of the environmental impacts and encourage the next generation to become change makers.



Rebecca Powell - Hickstead Champion



The Sunshine Tour Championships 2023 held at Hickstead recently, saw superstar Rebecca Powell in year 7 perform amazingly well in her show jumping classes, taking three wins in a group consisting of between sixty to ninety competitors. Rebecca then went on to win the ultimate prize in one show jumping category, securing the much-coveted accolade of Supreme Champion! Very well done Rebecca "Bex" Powell!



Speakers for Schools



We were delighted to welcome Rachel Nolan, Assistant Chief Constable at Essex Police who spoke to our Plume College Law and Criminology students today about her extraordinary career.

Assistant Chief Inspector Nolan joined us today as part of academy's work with the Speakers for Schools Programme. Speakers for Schools helps to arrange connections and engagements between a network of highly respected speakers and state secondary schools.

We thank Assistant Chief Inspector Nolan for her visit; our students gained much from the experience.



Plume Community ITT



Plume Community Teaching Partnership Recruiting for September 2024

We are looking to recruit graduates for our highly successful Initial Teacher Training programme.

Working with other local Essex schools, candidates will receive excellent training from experienced staff working in association with TES Institute.

If teaching is the career for you and you have the drive to make a difference to pupil achievement, please register your interest for a personal consultation with our Programme Manager.

We are able to offer secondary and primary routes.

Entry Requirements

- Educated to degree level
- GCSE grade 4/C in English and Mathematics
- Additional grade 4/C or above in Science for Primary

Visits to Plume are always welcome and we regularly host open events We also offer taster days and work experience



Plume Community ITT

The Plume Teacher Training partnership is based at Plume academy. Each year we train teachers in primary and secondary phases in schools in our local community. We offer a bespoke programme with our trainees coming from a range of backgrounds. Some trainees join the course straight from university whereas some are career changes who are joining the teacher profession later in life.

Our course is accredited by TES institute and there is a choice of doing a QTS route only or doing a joint QTS and PGCE.

A typical week in the life of a trainee involves one day studying online from home. One afternoon will be spent at Plume Academy where our primary and secondary specialists lead face to face training. The rest of the week is spent in the classroom shadowing the role of a teacher and, in time, teaching classes with guidance and support from experienced colleagues.

Have you considered a career in teaching? Do you know a family member of friend who has spoken about training as a teacher?



If so, we highly recommend you arrange to come in and experience a day in the classroom. We also hold regular online information evenings which give information about the course and allow participants to ask questions.

If you would like to arrange a school visit or join our next online information evening, please contact itt@plume.essex.sch.uk



National Poetry Day Winners

Pictured here with our Joint Heads of Academy and Mrs Russell are our very proud and extraordinarily talented Plume Academy and College poets, representing Mill Road Campus, Fambridge Road Campus and finally our Sixth Form College.

Teacher of English and second in the faculty Mrs Russell said, 'we were very pleased to award our winners of the National

Poetry Day competition with a certificate, badge and a £25 voucher to be used at Maldon Books in the High Street. We



Community Acad

Welcome to Mill Road Campus

had many fantastic entries, making selecting the winners extremely challenging! Our eventual winners submitted superb poems that reflected the 'Refuge' stimulus set and over seen by the English Faculty this year.'



Science Club

Autumn term science club has seen our budding scientists make bird feeders, construct brain hats, burn food stuff to see how much energy they contain, create rainbow flames, indulge in some alchemy turning copper coins into 'gold', form plastic from milk, and we are currently in the process of producing bouncy eggs!

There are always lots of experiments and fun to be had in room M21 at Mill Road Campus on Wednesdays from 3.15pm -4.15pm for anyone who wishes to join in please come along!

Miss Saunders, Miss Dale and Mrs Goodall





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Ambition Respect Resilience Community

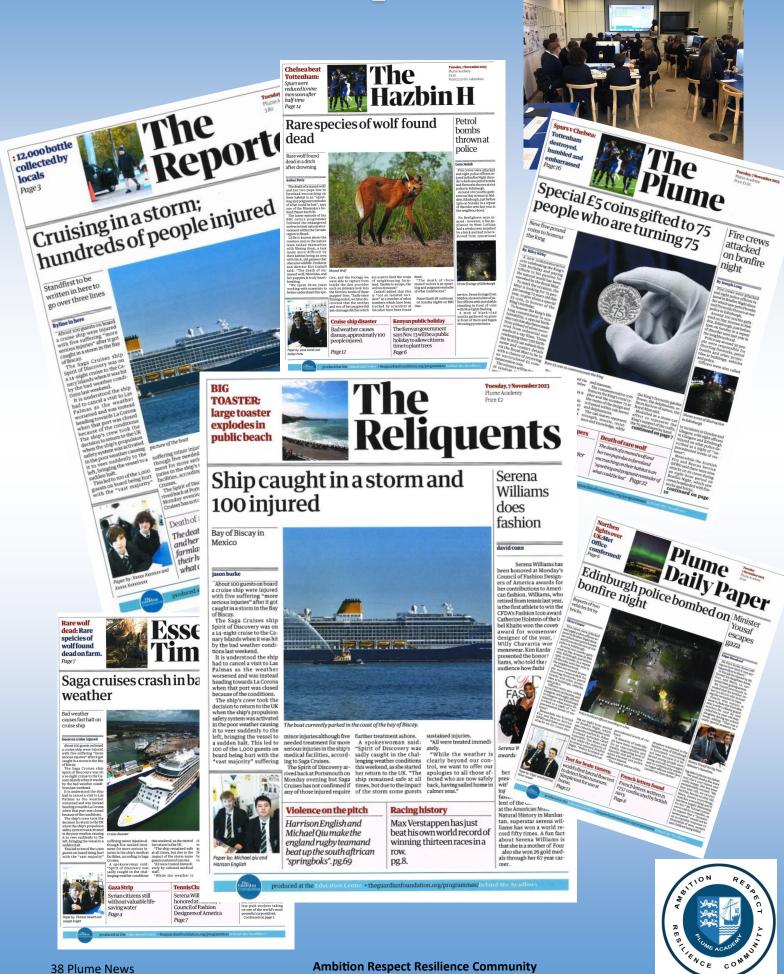
Guardian Trip



went to London, visiting the headquarters of The Guardian, where they are participating in a journalism workshop, working in a newsroom to produce newspaper front pages in real time. Congratulations to our English faculty for securing one of the coveted places for schools on this tremendous initiative. What an opportunity!



Guardian Trip



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Author Visit

In conjunction with Maldon Books, Year 7 students received a visit from Aisling Fowler, author of the Fireborn series of books. Students enjoyed listening to passages from her books, read by the author herself, and then participated in a writing masterclass in how to create characters of their own. Aisling helped students design a protagonist and a monstrous foe to battle, all of which were "truly terrifying" according to Fowler. At the end of the session, students were afforded the opportunity to ask questions before they received personally autographed copies of one or both of her published novels. One student said: "I loved this lesson and can't wait to get reading her first book tonight!"



ELVE HELPS

DEFEND THE

Plume Academy Remembers

Head Girl Harriet Phillips and Head Boy Mo Shorney represented Plume Academy on Remembrance Day this year and laid a wreath of red poppies in Maldon at the foot of the St Peters Church memorial; in order to honour our armed forces members who have died in the line of duty since the end of the First World War. Plume Academy has a long and proud tradition of taking part in this ceremony and we are very pleased that Hattie and Mo were there to take part and represent us all on this very important day.



Ambition Respect Resilience

Mountfitchet Castle Trip

On Friday 3rd November Year 7 visited Stansted Mountfitchet Castle. This was organised by the History Department as part of students' study of the Norman Conquest of England. They visited different stations that examined societal, religious, military and legal changes after 1066. The weather held; a good time was had, in the cool sun, by all!

A Norman Village of 1066



Give a Child a Christmas Present

The Plume Academy has been contacted again by Lorna Hart, the landlady of 'The Victoria Inn' who has again launched the 'Give a child a Christmas'. **This is the third year running that Lorna has kindly contacted the academy to offer our students and their families the opportunity to receive support.** After sending out the a plume letter to our families there have been many acceptance replies, with many families saying how difficult it is financially this time of year, and that they are so grateful for the offer of support.

As before the community have been so generous by gifting presents to the 'Give a Child a Christmas'. They take their gifts to the public house to be 'Give a child a Christmas': Burnham pub launches annual appeal to help over 500 children

By Ben Shahrabi Q 2nd Nov 2023 | Local News



Landlady Lorna Hart (pictured inset) is organising an appeal to help more than 500 children. (Credit: Ben Shahrabi)

sorted in age appropriate gifts. Lorna makes contact with local schools and social services to distribute the gifts. *The Plume is most grateful to be included, and would like to thank Lorna and her supporters for their hard work and big hearts.*

Further information can be found in the **Maldon Nub News**, please click on the link to view <u>https://maldon.nub.news/news/local-news/give-a-child-a-christmas-burnham-pub-launches-annual-appeal-to-help-over-500-children-209859</u>. You may also find 'The Victoria Inn' on Facebook, where you may find posts relating to the appeal.



BRING A PRESENT INTO THE VIC TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE CHILDREN

Residents are urged to buy an extra Christmas present this year, to donate to a disadvantaged child. (Credit: Lorna Hart)

'Give a child a Christmas': Burnham pub launches annual appeal to help over 500 children

A pub in Burnham-On-Crouch has launched a Christmas appeal to help disadvantaged children Maldon District.

maldon.nub.news



Science at Flatford Mill

Plume Academy's enthusiastic Year 13 Biologists welcomed the opportunity to engage with an outdoor classroom experience during the final weeks of October 2023

They visited the beautiful Flatford Mill, on the banks of the River Stour, which is one of the first and original field study centre set up in the UK during the 1940's. It is also unchanged from the wonderful,

timeless painting the Hay Wain by John Constable.

During the two packed days of ecological studies, the sun managed to shine occasionally, followed by dark cloud and heavy rain. However, it didn't stop the students from collecting an array of data from woodlands in sunlight and shade, coupled with wading river sampling. The data that was collected and a write up of the practical activities will be a quality addition to the students practical endorsement qualification and hopefully a memorable experience too. A big thank you to Mrs Williams, Miss Saunders and especially Mrs



Heslop that not only helped plan and organise the two-day event but, also transported us all there on both days-Miss L Cox

Science Faculty Leader



Financial Advice

On Thursday 9th November financial advisor Martyn Halls, an ex-Plume student visited the Academy to run some sessions with our Year 12 Prince's Trust students to assist with their Managing Money unit of coursework. The students carried out sessions on budgeting and fraud and got to question Martyn about his job and what he does on a daily basis.

The sessions were a great success and really gave the students an opportunity to get to grips with things that will prove useful once out in the world of work.

If anyone needs any help when it comes to finances, then feel free to contact Martyn on: Office phone: 020 8869 0959 - Mobile: 07791 659771



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Chess Christmas Appeal



What is it like to be homeless?

JAMES NEVER INTENDED TO BE HOMELESS.



Plume Academy

Christmas Appeal 2023

CHESS supporting the homeless in Essex

Collection points at Fambridge Road and Mill Road. Please look for this sign in the reception area on both campuses. With the coming colder weather, CHESS have an urgent need for sleeping bags and small pop-up tents, NEW or nearly new scarves, hats and gloves. Chocolate, cereal bars, toiletries such as shampoo, deodorant and shower gel are also needed.

Practical wisdom "the ability to do the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason."

Year 11 student Shane Saggs is very determined that our CHESS Christmas appeal for the homeless on our streets in Essex, is a huge success. Pictured here with his Head of Year Mrs Bush and with the support of Dad, Rob Saggs Chief Executive Officer of **CHESS Homeless. Shane** launched our Christmas appeal with a brilliant assembly to his fellow students in across all years. In a recent video that he made he spoke clearly and with feeling about what it means to be



Mutual Respect and Tolerance

Life is not the same for everyone. At this time of year we need to stop and think of those in our community and what we can do to support them.



Practical wisdom "the ability to do the right thing, at the right time, for the right reason."

homeless in Essex and why help is very much needed. The appeal was incorporated by Mr Cooper who leads the Character Education programme into a presentation that is shared and delivered to all year groups and included the video that was made by Shane. Shane would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your donations and the money you gave.



Superstar Fundraiser



During lockdown, Caitlin Pease came up with the innovative idea to create her own gifts and sell them via a Facebook page to put profits towards charity. Since starting Year 7 in September, Caitlin has fully embodied our "community" value by donating funds raised from this mini business to one of Plume Academy's chosen charities, Churches Homeless Emergency Support Scheme (CHESS). Not only has Caitlin managed to raise an impressive £58 in cash for CHESS, she has also generously donated several bars of chocolate and a sleeping bag for those most in need this Christmas. Outstanding work, Caitlin!

Caitlin continues to sell a range of hand-crafted pieces such as bracelets, mugs and goodie bags, so for gift ideas that contribute to a good cause, check out her page "Forever Creations" on Facebook!



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Student Leadership 23/24

Plume Academy Student Leadership Team 2023-24

During the final few weeks of the Autumn 1 half term many of the academy's students applied for the prestigious role of being the Student Leader for their Year Group. Students completed an application that highlighted their skills and passions, stating why they would be suitable to be a leader.

The quality of these applications led to extremely hard decisions being made across all year groups as the Head and Assistant Head of Year had to shortlist 6 students to go through to an interview process with our College

Executive student leadership team; Mo Shorney (Head Boy) Hattie Philips (Head Girl) Felix Chalis-Martin (Deputy Head Boy) and Jessica Watkins (Deputy Head Girl)

The high quality applications that were received across all year groups did not go unnoticed and all those that applied are congratulated for their fantastic efforts.

Each Year Group had six nominees going into the interviews held in the week commencing 16 October where our Executive Student Leadership team had the difficult job of selecting the successful candidates. They commented on the maturity of the responses and the clarity of their ideas. This was then backed up with clear views and forward thinking ideas on how to involve the student voice within academy policy and everyday life.

Our student leaders will now have a chance to discuss academy policies and ideas that will benefit the wider Plume community. The student leaders will make up our Executive Academy Student Council and will meet every half term to debate ideas brought to them by their peers in their Year Groups.

Our Student Leaders for 2023-24

Year 7 Lead Students Alex Carr Eliza Crickmore Amelia Trice Kaitlyn Wade

Year 8 Lead Students Katie Kerridge Ed Lavender Alex Sage Nathan Smith

Year 9 Lead Students Joe Gray Sienna Thomas Ted Shorney Poppy Slater

Year 10 Lead Students Emma Brown Lucas Caxton Archie Cook

Isla Simmons Assistant Students Leads Henry Smoker Poppy Adams

Year 11 Lead Students Jessie Gill Callum H N Isabella Olenka Amber Sawyer





Student Leadership 23/24



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Food Technology with Year 7

In the classroom: Year 7 Food Technology

Students have one theory and one practical lesson, in theory students are taught the fundamentals of the subject, in this example scone making. students are then provided with a demonstration from the staff member.

Recipes and this are posted onto satchel one ready for the students to complete their next lesson where they become the chef and make their own!

IN practical lessons students are assessed on independence, safe working practices and presentation, they are then given the opportunity to self assess their work.



Ever The Optimist !



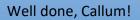
Callum M The Optimist: the most popular children's dinghy in the world

Most of the world's best sailors started in the Optimist dinghy and went on through other classes all the way to the Olympics.

Callum Marshall in Year 7 at Plume Academy who is already in the GB Development Squad finished a fantastic 6th with 65 competitors in his event. This builds on a strong performance at the Nationals in Weymouth in early August. A brilliant outcome and outstanding effort despite no wind which all competitors found extremely challenging.

The UK Summer Championships 2023 was held at Plas Heli the Welsh National Sailing Academy and Events Centre, Pwllheli, North Wales on the 9 - 10 September 2023.

Callum has already been invited to attend the GB winter performance training as a direct result of his UK ranking position. In the early July, Callum enjoyed training with the GB team in Portugal and completing both a training and race event.





12 Times British Champion



Cooper wins an amazing 12th consecutive British Championship

On Sunday the 8th of October Cooper raced in Kings Lynn to take part in his 12th British title race riding speedway. He rode his 250cc bike over 4 races, finishing with a sudden death final which he ended up winning, to gain his 12th consecutive title.

He is now British Champion yet again!

Cooper has ridden for Great Britain in world championship and the European pairs which has taken him to 17 countries over the course of this year.

Cooper would like to thank everyone for their continued support!



Plume Young Carers



Plume Academy wins award for young carer support

Plume Academy has been given a silver award for our work to make sure students do not miss out on an education because they are young carers.

The Young Carers in Schools organization helps primary and secondary schools improve outcomes for young carers, with celebrating good practice through the Young Carers in Schools Award. Young carers are responsible for emotional, practical or physical care for a parent, sibling or other family member who requires support through having a physical disability, a mental health condition or a drug or alcohol problem.

The Carers Trust and The Childrens Society in a joint statement said, "to achieve a Silver Award Plume Academy has demonstrated that it supports young carers in many ways, including awareness raising with pupils and staff, and by building links within the local community. Young carers are consulted with, and vital information is made available to pupils and families, letting them know where to go for help."





Christmas Concert



Plume Academy Christmas Concert

From readings, to drama, to solos, to boomwhackers, to Foo Fighters and even punk rock - our Christmas Concert had it all!

What a joy it was to see students doing what they do best.

Plume Academy is very proud of every student who performed this evening; and grateful to the staff who helped make it happen.



A Level Trip to Snowdonia



Our A Level Geographers wrapped up warm to complete their fieldwork in Snowdonia this Autumn term in, Wales. Here they are at the majestic Black Rock Sands. Our thanks to Mr McCarthy and Mr Harris for their coordination of the visit.





54 Plume News

Welcome Hub at **Plume Academy Thursday 22nd February** I lam-2pm

Everyone Welcome!

Get information, advice and support from local community organisations around health, wellbeing and essential living support.

Join us for free Soup and drinks and connect with your local

community.

Plume Academy Fambridge Rd Maldon CM9 6AB

The CGI Team will be there offering a free community gaming session for children and young people to enjoy!

Community Hub Support

rking Across the Maldon District

Find out more 01621 851891 / maldoncvs.org.uk







Maldon & District CVS are a service provider which values diversity and inclusivity towards our service users, partners and members regardless of their gende identity, sexual orientation, race, disability or creed.

Community Gaming Initiative (CGI) at the Plume Academy Thursday 22nd February I lam-2pm

Plume Academy Fambridge Rd Maldon CM9 6AB CGI will be hosting a special half term session alongside the Welcome Hub at the Plume Academy.

If you're curious about what a CGI session entails, or are excited to be a future member, then this is the perfect opportunity to first hand experience what it's all about.

Find out more:

01621 851891 / gaming@maldoncvs.org.uk





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56 Plume News

Christmas Baking Year 7



Christmas Baking Year 7



Ambition Re-

Christmas Baking Year 7



Ghost Writers MRC Winners





MRC winners of the ghost story writing competition: Y7 Kai Kirk Y8 Izzy Conway The both wrote captivating gothic stories for the whole school English competition. Firstly, I wanted to thank each and every one of the many pupils who entered into the English Faculty's Extra Curricular Ghost Story competition. I enjoyed reading them and sharing feedback with you on your writing. A lot of you really thought about the gothic ghost story genre and included great writing skills such as ellipsis, direct speech, gothic vocabulary choices, and symbolism.

RESTLING ACROSS



Mr T Bailey

Tim Bailey

Whilst Tim was brought up and educated in Braintree, Maldon was always a place of significance for him. His father had been active in the sea cadets and as a result Maldon and Heybridge were frequent childhood destinations. When he was looking to relocate to Essex in 2009 the area was a natural choice.

Tim is a career Banker having worked for one organisation the whole of his working life. For the last 30 years he has worked in various roles in the Corporate arena. His current position is heading up the restructuring team covering London and the South of England.

Chair of the Board of Trustees They look after medium to larger businesses that get into difficulty and need intensive support.

Throughout his career he has held a number of external interests including Governor at Colchester Institute and a Director at Colchester Business Enterprise Agency (COLBEA). He has taken many opportunities to support schools and colleges where he has been based. He is passionate to see all children reach the most of their potential.

Currently he is Vice Commodore and Treasurer of Goldhanger Sailing Club.

He has 4 children, one of whom is a student at the Plume. His interests include sailing/kayaking/paddle boarding, walking and fishing.



Mrs E Crees Trustee

Elizabeth Crees

Elizabeth is a teacher at a local primary school and is part of the Senior Leadership Team, Head of Maths, Modern Foreign Languages Subject Leader and the Head of the School Council.

Prior to this she had a career as a solicitor working in firms in Ipswich, Colchester and Clacton.

She has two children, one of whom attends the academy. She is passionate about giving children a voice and self-belief, to ensure that every child can become the best they can be. She also has a keen interest in making sure that the curriculum is rich, broad and balanced. Elizabeth has prior experience of being

a trustee at a local charity and has run a number of children's groups in North Essex on a voluntary basis. Originally from Leicestershire, Elizabeth has lived in

a village close to Maldon for twenty years, and enjoys sailing, walking and being part of the community





Mrs D Gray Trustee

Denise Gray

A midwife with over 25 years' experience in maternity services throughout the East of England, Denise is currently a Consultant Midwife at one of the UK's largest Maternity Units situated in East London. She has a particular interest in safeguarding, wellbeing and promoting a positive culture, with extensive experience gained throughout her years of NHS practice in a variety of settings

Denise has lived in the Maldon area for over 20 years and currently has two children at the Plume School and another two whom attended previously. Denise has previously undertaken a Governor role at her children's primary school.



Mr M Howell Trustee

Mark Howell

Mark is an IT professional with more than 40 years' experience. He has worked in many industry sectors including Automotive, Banking, Stock Broking, Pharmaceuticals, Oil, local government and charity. He has been a school trustee since 1997. Mark is Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees, the link trustee for Health and Safety, Chair of the Audit Committee and a member of the Strategic Development Committee. Mark has a son at the school, and his daughter and nieces attended the school prior to attending university. Mark moved to Maldon in 2004 and his local interest is focused on the Chelmer & Blackwater canal where he has a boat moored. His many interests include improving the local environment. Mark's vision for Plume Academy is that is the first choice for Maldon parents - he expects the school to play a key part in ensuring that

its students have the key skills required to lead a rewarding and happy life.



Ms K Mehrtens Trustee

Kay Mehrtens

I have lived in the Maldon area for over 30 years. Both of my children attended the Plume and were well supported and educated. I have had a long career in social care in various roles withing mental health and children's services, before retiring four years ago. I enjoy working with young people and have always sought to help them achieve their potential. On a personal note, I keep myself fit through walking, swimming and sailing and I have a somewhat obsessional love of opera! So I have varied, individual skills to offer the school as well as a commitment to helping young people achieve their potential and get a good education.





Mrs L Marshall Trustee

Laura Marshall

Laura is a qualified teacher who has worked in various roles within education for nearly 20 years. Laura has previous Senior Leadership experience across Teaching and Learning and Early Career Teacher support: establishing an Initial Teacher Training provision as a lead school as part of a consortium. Laura is extremely passionate about teacher training and development to support our next generation of teachers. Since 2016 Laura has worked for TES and since 2018 as a Programme Director. During her time at TES, Laura has gained experience across a variety of teacher training programmes and believes that supporting teachers in their professional development leads to improved outcomes therefore ensuring every child has access to high-quality education. Laura works with schools across a wide range of settings with Senior Leads and teachers from all over the UK and the world, working in partnership to support

recruitment, training and retention. Laura manages several programmes at TES; Subject Knowledge Enhancement which supports applicants prior to starting Initial Teacher Training, Straight to Teaching which is a preparation programme for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) for unqualified teachers and Assessment Only for those staff who are ready to be recommended for QTS.

Laura started her teaching career at Plume Academy so being able to support the school as a Trustee is a real honour. Laura is passionate about education which has the power to change individuals' lives, families, and communities. With her eldest son in Year 7 at Plume Academy, Laura hopes her skills and education experience can support the Academy in its continued vision for excellence with successful futures for all students.

Laura is a classically trained musician and still actively performs in orchestras across the region. When not playing she supports her local sailing club and her son's passion for sailing around the UK



Mrs S Milward Trustee

Sarah Milward

I have worked as a primary teacher for 22 years. I have two children, one of whom has just started secondary school. I am passionate about education and would relish the opportunity to be on the other side of the process. I believe that my teaching experience allows me to have a unique understanding of the pressures facing the school staff whilst my role as a parent allows me to also appreciate the need for the schools duty of care to provide the best education and support the students growth. Hopefully, balancing both these roles will allow me to serve Plume as best I can.





Mrs S Robinson Trustee

Sarah Robinson

Sarah has worked within commercial real estate for 20 years, starting her career as an accountant. She is a now a Partner of a London firm of Chartered Surveyors, acting as a Property Asset Manager, looking after a large portfolio of office, leisure, retail and residential properties across the UK. Sarah has lived in Maldon for over 10 years, and her son attends a local primary school.She is very much looking forward to using her knowledge and skills developed throughout her career, to help the Academy.



Mrs L Smart Trustee

Lisa Smart

Lisa's career in the environmental sector has spanned 30 years, working for Natural England, the National Trust, Essex Wildlife Trust before moving to Essex County Council. She manages a large countywide team, encompassing nature reserve management, trading activities and community events. A key role is to ensure accessibility and inclusivity across parks. She is a trained ecologist, having studied her Bachelor's in Environmental Science and her Master's in Ecology.

Both of Lisa's children attended the academy; her son attends Plume College and her daughter is now at the University of Surrey. Her passion is for ensuring that students of all ages experience the benefits of engaging with the natural

world, particularly in relation to mental health and sustainable lifestyles.

In her spare time, she enjoys sailing and walking Essex's 350-miles of stunning coastline.



Mrs J Smith Trustee

Judy Smith

I have always lived in Maldon. On leaving grammar school, I joined Barclays Bank working in three local branches, and then moved to work as a secretary for an agricultural company before having my son and daughter. I then joined the family business until our retirement. I am a member of Maldon Rotary Club and am currently serving my second term as President coupled with that of Secretary. I am involved with the academy as a reading intervention assistant as I

am a great believer in the power of reading. I gain great satisfaction from seeing an improvement in a student's reading skills. I had a granddaughter attend the academy and a grandson and two great-nephews are still attending



Plume Academy Calendar



Academic Year 2023-2024

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023						
Μ	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	м	Т	W	Т	F	S	S
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						30	31																				
January 2024								February 2024						March 2024							April 2024						
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29	30	31					26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					
May 2024								June 2024						July 2024						August 2024							
Μ	т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	м	Т	W	т	F	S	S
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27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	
= School days = School holidays = Bank holidays = Weekends = Staff train													ainin	g day	ys												
Autumn Term: Monday 4 September 2023 – Wednesday 20 December 2023 Half Term 23 October – 27 October														73 days													
							y 4 January 2024 – Thursday 28 March 2024 56 days m 19 February - 23 February																				
								ril 20. 1ay —							ay - 6	5 Ma	v					66 days					



195 days