



PLUME NEWS

Maldon's Community Academy

Week Ending 13/05/2022

Reminders

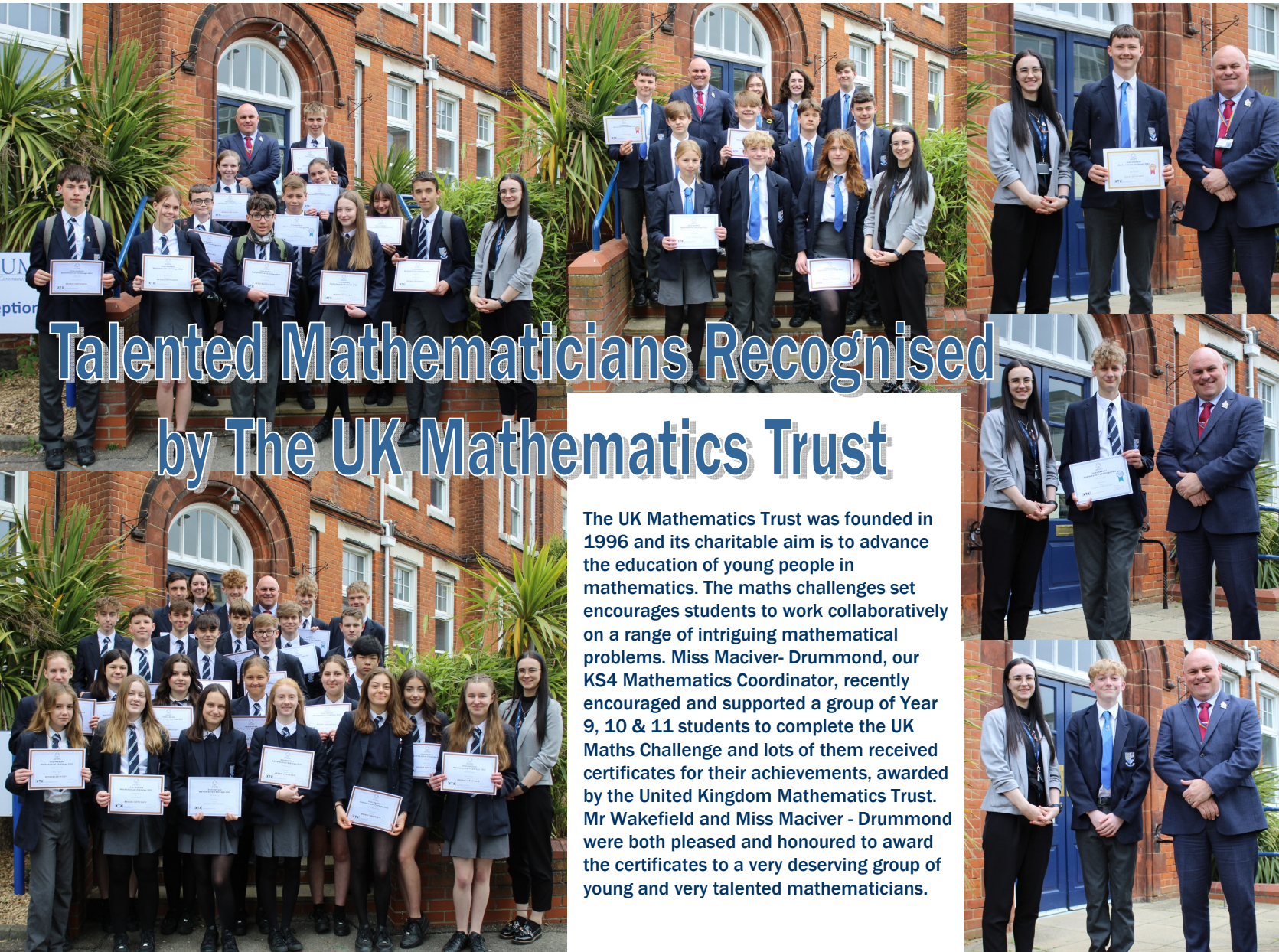
A Necessary Change in Non-Student Days

After receiving, reading through and discussing our options with regards the 'RideLondon Classique' cycle event that will be taking place in and around our district on Friday 27 May 2022, there is simply no safe and plausible way we can operate a typical academy day involving over 2000 stakeholders on that particular day. This is primarily due to the published road closures, some of which will be from 4am - 8pm that day, many of which are exceptionally close to the academy and directly relating to virtually all routes coming into and going out of both campuses.

We will switch our planned non-student day scheduled for Friday 24 June 2022 to Friday 27 May 2022. This means that Friday 24 June 2022 will be a normal teaching day and Friday 27 May 2022, a non-student day. This is with the exception of our Year 11, 12 and 13 students who are due to sit examinations on Friday 27 May 2022.

Talented Mathematicians Recognised by The UK Mathematics Trust

The UK Mathematics Trust was founded in 1996 and its charitable aim is to advance the education of young people in mathematics. The maths challenges set encourages students to work collaboratively on a range of intriguing mathematical problems. Miss Maciver- Drummond, our KS4 Mathematics Coordinator, recently encouraged and supported a group of Year 9, 10 & 11 students to complete the UK Maths Challenge and lots of them received certificates for their achievements, awarded by the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust. Mr Wakefield and Miss Maciver - Drummond were both pleased and honoured to award the certificates to a very deserving group of young and very talented mathematicians.



Summer Examination Information

With the summer examination season about to begin, the following is a reminder for students sitting examinations:

- Arrive outside your examination venue 10 minutes before the examination start time.
- Remember to bring relevant equipment with you to your examinations in a clear pencil case.
- You will need a black pen for all examinations.
- Remember to bring a calculator for those examinations that require one. You will need a calculator for Science, Geography, Business and various other examinations as well as Mathematics (although you are not allowed to use a calculator for your first GCSE Mathematics examination on 20 May).
- It is a good idea to bring a drink of water, which must be in a clear plastic container with all labels/markings removed.
- Mobile phones, MP3/4 players, etc, as well as watches of any kind, must be left in bags or switched off and handed in on entering the examination room.
- You must enter the examination venue in silence and remain so until you have left the examination room.
- If you will be absent for your examination, please contact the Examinations Team via telephone (01631 879853) or email (exams@plume.essex.sch.uk) on the morning of your examination and we will advise Attendance accordingly.

If you have any queries regarding your examinations, please contact the Examinations team via exams@plume.essex.sch.uk or pop in to the Examinations Office opposite Main Reception.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our students sitting examinations this summer all the best for their forthcoming examinations.

Mrs Chittock and Mrs Burke—Examinations Office



Plume Students take part in Baby Simulators Experience

Year 10 have started to experience what it is like to look after a baby. Over the next few weeks, students who have volunteered for this wonderful experience will be taking one of our Plume Baby Simulators.

Our first students who took the babies home were Isobella Mayo and Becca Palmer, in 10A-Cd. Isobella has captured her experience in this review, and I highly recommend you read it. If you would like to know more about it or want to know about studying Child Development, please email me at s.smee@plume.essex.sch.uk or come and see me in the Child Development Classroom at FRC R121.

Mrs S. Smee

Over the weekend of 22 to the 24 April 2022, I took part in the baby experience. For that weekend, I had to look after an electronic baby. By look after, I mean I had to change the nappy, feed, rock, and burp the baby. I was one of the first two Year 10 students to have this experience, in 2022, which was rather exciting in itself! When taking child development, I learnt about this experience. It was an optional experience, simply for fun and to learn what it would be like to be a parent. The baby would cry, or whimper, but you wouldn't know what they wanted. So, you would have to go through all the options, to see what the baby required. On day 2 I learnt that cries were for food or nappy, and whimpers were for rocking or burping.

I had to take care of a six-month-old baby boy, called Jack. Baby Jack was quite fussy! During the day, I would feed him, for about 15-20 minutes at a time. Then, during the night, all he seemed to want was to be rocked! Yes, you heard that right, 'during the night'. The baby wakes up during the night, which was interesting. I am not used to being awoken during the night, especially by a crying electronic baby. My experience with the waking up during the night, wasn't too bad. Yes, he would wake up, but only for 45 minutes to an hour at a time. The settings, of when and why the baby cried, were set to random. So, I can safely say, that I was lucky with my baby. Weirdly, on both nights, Jack woke up at three am, which was a strange coincidence!

Overall, I would say that the experience was eye-opening. I have always wanted children, but not for quite a while. So, with that thought in mind, I asked my parents if I could take part in this experience. There were good aspects, and not so good aspects to taking part in this experience. The not so good aspects were the disruptions to my sleep and my overall schedule. For example, often, I would be eating dinner, and the baby would suddenly start to scream. Another time, I had to burp the baby for 45 minutes! I even had to get both of my parents to help me, I found that part quite annoying. However, on the other hand, the good aspect was the learning curve that this experience allowed me to take. I realised how difficult and tiring it is to look after a baby, especially since I was alone with it! I really began to appreciate and feel grateful, for my parents and how they had taken care of me because it is so hard, and I didn't even have all the experiences of raising a child. This experience, although such a small slice of real parenthood, taught me so much. It allowed me to re-evaluate my decisions when it comes to children. Even though, I will not be having children for a rather long time.

If you are like me and would like to have children when you get older, I would 100% recommend this experience. It will tire you out, but it will teach you valuable life lessons, that you can't really get anywhere else.

Congratulations to...



Lola Brand Y10 National Regional Gymnastics Champion

Many Congratulations to Lola Brand Y10 who has been crowned Regional Gymnastics Champion. She is off to the National Finals where she will lead the East Region squad in June! We are all very proud of your achievement Lola and wish you all the very best at the National Finals



Charlie Barnard, Year 7 who took part in the regional round of remote-control cars competition.

Charlie is a junior driver but races with adults. Charlie won his final at the weekend, driving well and consistently.

SO HOW DO I GET COUNTING?

YOUR HOW-TO GUIDE

THE BIG PLASTIC COUNT
16-22 MAY

Remember to put these dates in your diary!

"It's ridiculous that we're still swamped with plastic waste when it makes so many of us furious. The natural world can't cope. We need to find out what's really happening to plastic that's supposedly recycled. I'll be joining The Big Plastic Count and I'd urge you to do it too."

Chris Packham
Wildlife expert, TV presenter, author and conservationist

TOGETHER, LET'S INVESTIGATE.

WHAT'S MY PRE-COUNT PREP?

Print out the PDF Plastic Tally Sheet (below) and familiarise yourself with the kinds of plastics we're counting. Put it up on your fridge, or near your bin or recycling.

Not got a printer? Don't worry, you can tally your plastic waste online from your phone, tablet or computer. Simply bookmark thebigplasticcount.com/submit so you're ready to start tallying on 16 May.

Tell everyone you live with that you're going to be taking part. They can include their plastic waste in the count too.

Help us spread the word! The more people who join in, the stronger the evidence, and the louder our call for change will be. Share this link with your friends, family, colleagues and community so they can sign-up too: thebigplasticcount.com/join.



HOW DO I COUNT DURING THE WEEK?

Using the Plastic Tally Sheet, record the different types of household plastic packaging waste you use for one week. This includes plastic going in your bin and plastic you put out for recycling.

Remember to write down any piece of plastic packaging you use while out of your home, then tally it when you get back.

At the end of the count, submit your results by 31 May 2022 at thebigplasticcount.com/submit.

WHAT NOT TO COUNT

Don't include: plasters, medication packaging, non-dairy milk/juice cartons, nappies, dog poo bags, plastic cutlery or period products.

We don't want to include plastic items that are used for medical or sanitary reasons, or by people with disabilities who rely on plastic items for independence. Also, we are not counting coffee cups or Tetra Pak, the plasticised cardboard material that many juice/milk cartons are made of.

For a full list of what not to include, go to thebigplasticcount.com/help

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I COUNT?

Once you've submitted your results, we'll calculate your household's plastic footprint, revealing what really happens to it once it leaves your home and showing the true scale of the UK's plastic problem. We'll also share tips on how you might be able to reduce plastic in day-to-day life.

But remember, solving the plastic problem isn't about us feeling bad when we need to use plastic, or just about what we can do individually. We need to stop the flow of plastic production. We need reusable alternatives that are affordable, accessible and appropriate for all. These big changes need to come from the government, brands and supermarkets - and that's what you're helping us prove.

HOW DO I SUBMIT MY COUNT?

This bit is crucial: once the count is done, enter your results by 31 May 2022 on our website at thebigplasticcount.com/submit or scan the QR code to the right.



This year the Big Plastic Count is taking place 16th-22nd May. It would be great to get everyone involved in the Academy (please share with friends and family too). Please follow the link to find out more information about the Big Plastic Count and sign up.

Here's the main link: <https://thebigplasticcount.com/media/The-Big-Plastic-Count-Tally-Sheet-Digital.pdf>



WANT TO TRAIN AS A TEACHER?

Join us for our tailored Initial Teacher training in partnership with TES Institute

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."
- William Arthur Ward

✉ ITT@plume.essex.sch.uk

☎ 01621 854 681

📘 Find us on Facebook
Plume Community Teaching Partnership

Contact us now for your free consultation with our programme specialist



National Numeracy Day

Mindset Guide


Top 3 Tips To Help Children Love Maths

Parents and carers don't need to be maths experts to be able to support their children. All families can make a difference to their children's maths learning by following these top tips:



1 Talk positively about maths

Children learn from example, so avoid saying things like "I can't do maths" or "I hated maths at school." It's easy for children to take that on board themselves. Keeping things positive is more likely to help children develop self confidence with maths.



2 Point out the maths in everyday life

Maths is all around us – it's not just something that happens in school! Showing children the numbers in things like cooking, using money and travelling is a simple way to bring maths to life. This will help them see the value of learning maths.



3 Praise children for effort rather than talent

Giving children praise is important, but the type of praise we use can have an impact on how they feel about maths. Praising children for the hard work they've put in, or for working out the steps to get to an answer, is more helpful than simply telling them they're clever. It helps them see that it's not about natural ability – but that by working hard they can always improve.



18 May 2022
#NationalNumeracyDay

nationalnumeracy.org.uk/numeracyday

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



Reflection

As part of the GCSE Art Coursework 2022 with the theme of reflection, students were encouraged to develop personal ideas using different media and techniques in their work. They were challenged to record personal and meaningful contexts that realised intentions and demonstrated understanding of visual language. Our Year 11, Kienna Abrey has made such an outstanding memorial sculpture, that we felt should be shared with our community - Mrs Mills

Kienna wrote, " *this is my final piece for my GCSE Art exam unit entitled Reflections. My piece was designed and made in memory of my best friend Ellise, who sadly passed away on the 2 September 2019. My piece shows various items in her favourite colour that remind me of the memories of the time we spent together and I have been able to reflect on these whilst working on this. In loving memory of Ellise Sambora 07.09.2005 - 02.09.2022.*"



Plume Careers



Virtual Career Events Continue...



BUILDING CAREERS LIVE

16-17 July 2022

Warwickshire Events Centre

An **exciting** and **interactive** event like no other in the UK construction industry.

Why Choose Construction?

- Skilled Tradesperson **60K pa**
- Jobs for **everyone**
- Lifelong **career**

Come and join us

- Students go **Free**
- Careers **Advice**
- 40+ trade **experts & influencers**

BUILD | INSPIRE | UNITE
buildingcareerslive.co.uk

Virtual Work Experience



Find a virtual work experience programme!

Meet industry experts, complete mini-activities, and get noticed by employers.

[Click here for more information](#)

1893 Writtle University College

Ofsted Good Provider

Book onto one of our upcoming College Course Open Events!

Level 2 and 3 Certificates and Diplomas in the following course areas:

- Agriculture
- Animal Management
- Animal Science
- Conservation - Land & Wildlife
- Dog Grooming
- Equine
- Floristry
- Horticulture - Gardening & Landscaping
- Sport
- Veterinary Nursing

VISIT US!

Download or request a copy of our FE Prospectus: writtle.ac.uk/Order-a-Prospectus

Book onto one of our college course open events to find out more
writtle.ac.uk/College-OpenDay-Application

writtle.ac.uk

1893 Writtle University College



Jack Petchey's "SPEAK OUT" Challenge!

On Wednesday 4 May, Leo Weller represented the Plume Academy on stage at the East Essex Regional Final of the Jack Petchey "Speak Out" Challenge competition.

Leo recently took part in our annual workshop in February, a one full day workshop, led by a Speakers Trust trainer, who offered students structured, interactive exercises to develop communication skills and expand comfort zones. Leo, along with 9 other Year 10 students, was successful in progressing to the next round of the competition: presenting his speech in a year 9 assembly. After a successful assembly, Leo was voted to represent the school at the regional final.

Leo's speech, entitled 'Are Jaffa Cakes a cake or a biscuit?', did what it said on the tin. Leo took to the stage with confidence and presented a well-rehearsed and humorous speech, which had many of the audience members in tears.

Mr Wakefield, Mrs Wills and Miss Theobald, along with Mr and Mrs Weller, were extremely proud of the confidence and skills that Leo has gained from this experience.



[Click here](#)

Explore the latest placements on offer and find the right fit for you. We work with over 700 employers across a wide range of industries and we update this page regularly to bring you the very best opportunities for virtual work experience as soon as they are listed.

TERM DATES

2021/2022

Summer Term

Tuesday 19 April 2022
- Friday 22 July 2022

Half Term

Tuesday 31 May - Friday 3 June

Bank Holidays

Thursday 2 - Friday 3 June

Changed Staff Training Day

Friday 27 May

Cancelled Staff Training Day

Friday 24 June

Calendar May 2022

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
16 Start GCSE and A Level Examinations	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 Changed Staff Training Day	28	29
30 Half Term Holiday	31 Half Term Holiday	1 Half Term Holiday	2 Half Term Holiday	3 Half Term Holiday	4	5
6 Students return to the academy	7	8	9	10	11	12



WOW! SUMMER SCHOOLS 2022

A workshop based week for 8-13s

Mon 15th to Fri 19th August.

A workshop based week for 13-21s

Mon 22nd to Fri 26th August.

Location: Witham Public Hall, Collingwood Road, Witham

Price £125 (£25 Deposit required to reserve a place)

Two bursaries are available to cover the full cost for those that could otherwise not attend.
For further information www.wow.org.uk/summer-schools

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 multicultural 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!



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