



### Introduction

Dear Parents and Carers,

This has been another eventful term at Emerson Park Academy.

The summer term is always busy and this year has been no exception. The GCSE examinations have finished and we look forward to another great set of results in August 2022.

Year 10 have completed their examinations and the experience gained from this will put them in a good position for their public examinations next summer.

Academic success is a great individual achievement, yet is only made possible through the fantastic support that family, friends and teachers have offered during this academic year.

The pandemic presented a huge challenge to pupils and the school community as whole. The resilience shown by all involved should bear fruit and see our pupils go on to do great things at college and in the workplace.

Once again, I should point out just how proud I am of the pupils at this school, the professionalism of our staff and the incredible support of parents and carers.

We now break for the holiday and look forward to recharging, ready for the next academic year.

I hope you all have a great summer break.

Best wishes,

Scott McGuinness  
Headteacher

### Building work at EPA

A large number of building programmes were undertaken during this academic year costing approximately £3.5m. Whilst such works can cause some disruption around the school the long term benefits of good facilities outweigh the negative aspects.

Staff and pupils have shown great patience in accommodating this work and it is good to finally see the school returning to normal.

### Trips

This term has seen numerous trips run by staff, with several trips for our GCSE Geography students to Stratford & Walton on the Naze, our GCSE History students went to Whitechapel and another cohort of Year 10s undertook their residential expedition to Danbury as part of the schools Duke of Edinburgh programme. In addition to this numerous sports fixtures in Cricket, Athletics and Rounders have been undertaken and a large number of our Sports Leaders have been out supporting local primary schools with their summer sports programmes.





## Personal, Social, Health and Economic education events

PSHE drop down sessions and workshops have been taking place during the Summer Term. All pupils in Years 7 to 10 have had the chance to ask any question about PSHE related topics and these are fed back to pupils during Zoom sessions. Additionally, Year 9 have had an Enterprise morning and 46 Year 7s went on a trip to the Copped Hall to develop employability skills such as teamwork, ICT and organisation.

## The Platinum Jubilee

All pupils saw a Zoom assembly charting the life of Queen Elizabeth II. Pupils also had the opportunity to take part in a Jubilee Quiz, won by Clark F. in Year 9. Additionally, there was a Jubilee photo competition won by Sam B. in Year 8 with Bethany B. in Year 9 coming second and Aidan R. in Year 8 coming third.

## Erasmus Plus

During the Easter Holiday we welcomed pupils and staff from Latvia, Bulgaria, Spain, Italy and Greece. Twenty of our pupils gave up their time to help with hosting. We held a traditional tea party, went to the Copped Hall, did a scavenger hunt in London and walked Southend Pier, the purpose of the visit was to discover the history and geography of the region. Whilst this project has now come to a close, we very much hope to continue working with staff and pupils in these countries and we have a number of ideas for 2022/23.

## British Sign Language group

The idea of senior prefect, Lacie P, the sign language class has been an overwhelming success. 15 pupils began the journey of learning British Sign-language at Level One in January of this year. Meeting with representatives of Positive Signs, an Upminster based teaching school, the students learnt the basics of communication. All pupils can now enquire as to the well-being of the those in the deaf community; ask for and provide directions; engage in basic conversation about likes and dislikes.



The final examinations for the course were held the last week of June and it is a delight to report that all pupils passed with flying colours. It is our intention to continue the excellent work undertaken here by offering the course again in the coming academic year.

## LAMDA

Our students who study LAMDA (London Academy for Music and Dramatic Arts) have worked incredibly hard and recently sat their exams. LAMDA lessons have been part of Emerson Park Academy for over nine years with 100% pass rate. LAMDA is not just about performing, it is also about gaining confidence, challenging yourself and learning new skills. If you are interested and would like to sign up please contact the Finance Office (Mrs Surridge).

## Year 11 Leavers Day

On Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May, we said an emotional farewell to the year 11s as they embarked upon their GCSE exams. The students gathered in the hall to sign shirts and write messages to the friends they have spent 5 years in school with, accompanied by their form tutors and some of their teachers. We also enjoyed a compilation of long-forgotten photos from their time at EPA since year 7.

Throughout their exam season, the year 11s conducted themselves impeccably. They approached the exams with maturity and dedication, and the culmination of 5 years worth of hard work went without a hitch.

Now, as they enjoy a well earned summer break, I'd like to wish them every success in their future pursuits. They have been a wonderful year group; I hope that they achieve everything that they set out to do in life, and earn a set of exam results to be proud of.

## Senior Prefects

In order to be considered for the senior prefect roles, students applied in writing, outlining their skills for the role. From there, those shortlisted for interview were required to give a presentation to members of the senior leadership team and the head of year on an area of improvement they feel the Academy needs. The performance of all of those concerned was nothing short of exceptional and the calibre of each candidate made the decision-making process incredibly difficult. To have the strength of character to present such inspired ideas to those on the senior team, was incredible and each of us on the panel were in awe of the confidence and maturity displayed by everyone interviewed.

It is a delight to announce the following pupils have been chosen as our senior prefect team for the coming academic year:

Head Boy:	Shaan R
Head Girl:	Alysa W-C
Deputy Head Boy:	Harry H-F
Deputy Head Girl:	Macie C
Senior Prefect Team:	Reily W
	Alice J
	Max H
	Divine O
	Abhay C
	Katie J

## Field trips

The GCSE Geography cohort have spent 2 (mostly) sunny days at Walton-on-the-Naze investigating how coastal erosion is impacting the landscape. The students were fantastic throughout and learned a variety of new skills including surveying and cost/benefits analysis. We even managed to fit in some football and cricket into a fun packed couple of days. Well done Geographers! Good luck in your fieldwork write-up.

The History Department took the Year 10 History students to London to explore the area of Whitechapel which is part of their Crime and Punishment unit at GCSE. The day involved a lot of walking and looking at interesting sites including a former Jewish soup kitchen, the site of the first Peabody Estate as well as getting a first-hand look at the winding streets and narrow alleyways that caused the Police a lot of trouble in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Pupils were shown different picture sources of the area from the 19<sup>th</sup> century so they could draw a comparison with how it looked today. Some pupils were also shown some real Victorian Police handcuffs. The day was very informative and pupils engaged and interacted with the tour guides fantastically.



## Duke of Edinburgh

We had another successful year in DofE when 39 Year 10's took part in the Bronze Award. All were successful in passing the expedition section after walking a total of 25km in 12 hours across both days in the searing heat in Danbury. The pupils showed true grit and resilience in the testing climates while still showing a great sense of humour throughout. Our thanks go to the members of staff who gave up their weekend to assist with the expedition.

## Careers

A group of 20 Y10 students have been taking part in a 2 year careers programme with 'Future Frontiers'. Students are partnered with a successful business in the heart of the city of London, where they are guided by their very own coach, to prepare them for their next steps. Our thanks go to the volunteer coaches from Somp International who are giving our students this wonderful opportunity.

## Sports news

Football

Year 10 boys' football team were the Essex and Havering Cup double winners

U14s girls' football team won the Havering Championships

Netball

Year 7 and Year 9 Netball teams were Havering Finalists and Essex Plate Semi Finalists

Havering Swimming Gala

Year 7 girls came third

Year 8 girls came second

Year 9 girls came third and Year 9 boys came second

Years 10 and 11 girls were third in Havering Swimming Gala

Athletics

Years 7 and 8 girls Athletics team came 4th in Regional B final

Years 9 and 10 Boys team came 9th in Regional A final

Year 10 Boys team took 2nd place at Havering District Athletics Championships

## Jack Petchey

The Jack Petchey Foundation was established in 1999 to support young people aged 11-25 through programmes in schools and youth organisations. The aim of the charity is to support projects to enable young people to achieve their potential and contribute to society.

Students can win a Jack Petchey Award for many reasons. Winners receive £300 to spend in school on something that will benefit the students. This year the students have purchased Revision Materials for Year 11 Form Groups, 2 electric guitars, a printing press, a visit from a guest speaker and 2 Chromebooks.

I would like to congratulate those who have been awarded so far this year – Lacie P, Tyler H, Sylvia Y, James B, Uno B, and Clark F. Additionally, congratulations to Mrs Barrow who has received the Jack Petchey Leader's Award after receiving several nominations from students who wished to recognise her hard work and dedication to the Academy.



## I-Class

iClass has enjoyed another successful academic year. We have completed many interventions with pupils achieving targets in Maths and English. We have also broadened our curriculum to include ASDAN courses, which help our pupils to achieve meaningful learning outcomes, empowering them to take control of their learning.

A highlight of the year was seeing the return of the Happy Chick Company. Our pupils and the wider school community had a lot of fun experiencing ethical hatching in our classroom. This promoted good morale and stimulated social interaction. We are looking forward to the next academic year and welcoming a new HLTA to our team.



## Green Flag award

We are very pleased to announce that Mr Dennis and his Eco-Committee at Emerson Park Academy have been awarded an Eco-Schools Green Flag. It's wonderful that Mr Dennis appointed such a representative Eco-Committee, a group of eager volunteers and this shows the schools excellent commitment to both the programme and the eco-cause. The Environmental Review helped to raise the level of awareness in the school and helped the Eco-Committee to identify the issues and spot gaps in the school's existing environmental activity. The Eco board is incredibly visual and engaging and promotes the committees work. The range of activities that the Eco-Committee undertook were Eco-bricks, Bug hotels, bee hotels, and bean bags filled with shredded plastic. Everyone involved should be incredibly proud of the changes they have made. The schools Eco-Code is really smart and concise. It's a great message and its punchy nature will definitely help it be processed by everyone passing by the Eco-Board. Congratulations to everyone for the great work by earning the Green Flag with style.

## Clubs

Web design & Coding club (Python) will be starting in September, every Monday after school for an hour 15:00 to 16:00.

