



Introduction

Dear Parents,

After what feels like months of inclement weather, it is a relief to see the sun shining and other signs of spring arriving.

The better weather and longer days give us all a sense of optimism and the Easter holiday will give us all a chance to recharge our batteries for the final push with the summer exams.

Our Year 11 pupils now enter their final term at Emerson Park Academy and we will do whatever we can to ensure they fulfil their potential in the examination season.

One huge push over the coming weeks will see them all reap the rewards they deserve.

Our other year groups have also been working incredibly hard and some of their endeavours are previewed in this newsletter.

Well done to our 'students of the half term', the Art competition entrants and those attending the Elevate sessions.

Our sporting endeavours continue and congratulations to the Year 8 Rugby team. I was also pleased to see the Year 11 football team taking part in the training sessions detailed in this newsletter.

I hope you enjoy reading about the other great trips, successes and fundraising activities.

A great deal has already happened in 2026 and there is plenty more to come in what will be a busy summer term.

Enjoy the holidays.

Kind regards,

Scott McGuinness
Headteacher

Student Of The Half Term

Congratulations to our recent Student of the half term winners across the individual houses, based on attitude and effort! Your hard work and determination inspire us all. Keep shining!



Prized Artwork

Pupils from schools across Havering have been recognised for their efforts in a Mother's Day portrait competition, with their winning pieces recently on display at Daniel's View gallery in The Mercury Shopping Centre.

The artwork forms part of 'The Women Who Made Us' exhibition, celebrating mothers, grandmothers, carers and other influential women. Congratulations to all who entered from the Art Department, and to our individual winners, whose prizes were presented to them by the Mayor of Havering, Sue Osprey.



Rugby Sevens Success

The Year 8 boys rugby team took part in the Essex 7s at New Hall School.

The boys topped their group following wins against Woodbridge and Eastbrook. In the semi-final, they eased past Phillip Morant 25–10.

In the final, despite being 15–10 down at half-time, they ran in 4 unanswered tries in the second half to win 30–15 and became Essex 7s Bowl Champions after not losing a single game all day. This is a huge achievement for these boys, and we congratulate them on this fantastic success.



Options Evening

Options time is an important point in your child's education; it is here that they have the opportunity to choose some of the subjects that they will study for the next two years.

We know that it can be a difficult time and can cause anxiety because there are a lot of questions that you and your child might have, so we hope the recent evening brought informed choices and we look forward to the interview process.

Our options process has been designed to make this time less worrying for you and your child. It aims to create a balance between what we as educators know will help individual pupils, and the freedom to choose subjects they will enjoy and be enthusiastic about.

We hope that the information allowed you to make the right choices that will see your child succeeding over the next two years and beyond.



Fundraising Success

Our school community came together in a truly heartwarming way this February to support an important cause.

In the lead-up to Valentine's Day, Mrs Riches delivered assemblies sharing the story of her young cousin, Lily, who lives with Rett Syndrome. Her message helped pupils understand the challenges of the condition and the importance of supporting research into treatments through the charity Reverse Rett.

On Thursday 13th February, a Valentine's Day sale was held with the fantastic support of our Year 9 House Captains. Pupils were able to purchase a range of items including toys, gifts and popular teddy roses. A special highlight of the event was the opportunity to send a 'secret rose' to a friend, which added excitement and kindness to the occasion. These roses were delivered during lessons on Friday, bringing smiles across the school.

Thanks to the enthusiasm and generosity of pupils and staff, we raised an incredible £850 on the day, with over 200 roses delivered throughout the school.

In addition, a GoFundMe page has been set up and has already raised a further £120. Mrs Riches would like to extend her heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed and supported the event – so far it's been £1,062. Your generosity is making a real difference.



Elevate Session

We have partnered with Elevate Education to run revision workshops for our Year 11 students on 'How to Ace Your Exams'. Year 11 pupils gained helpful tips and advice on exam preparation, revision and managing stress.

It was a valuable experience and gave our pupils the platform to face what will undoubtedly be the most challenging, but rewarding, school term.



Havering Sports Council Awards

Lois S made the final two in the 'Junior Sports Competitor of the Year Award' at the annual Havering Sports Council Awards, held at Upminster Golf Club.

Mr Reynolds nominated Lois for her remarkable achievements last year in swimming, which also included representing England at the World School Games in Slovakia.

The great news is that Lois won. This has been a great personal achievement for her and something that will cap off her time at Emerson Park, as she has been a great ambassador for the school.

This is the second year in a row an Emerson Park pupil has won this award, as last year it was won by sprinting legend and former pupil Joel A.



Speak Out

60 Year 10 pupils will be taking part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge.

This programme provides pupils with the opportunity to develop a range of important communication and personal skills. Throughout the workshop, pupils will learn how to structure and deliver an effective speech, develop confidence when speaking in front of an audience, and use persuasive language to communicate their ideas clearly.

The programme also supports pupils in improving their body language, voice projection and overall presentation skills. In addition, pupils will strengthen their ability to think critically, express their opinions respectfully, and listen to and respond to the views of others.

By the end of the sessions, pupils will have gained valuable experience in public speaking, helping them to build confidence, leadership skills and effective communication techniques that will support them both in school and beyond.

We are also hosting the Regional Final this year on 7th May.



BFI Southbank

Our Year 10 linguists took over BFI Southbank for a day of Spanish cinema.

They explored GCSE themes through Spanish short films, answered questions in front of the whole auditorium (bravo!), and finished with a fascinating Spanish language documentary, boosting listening skills and cultural knowledge.

A brilliant day, and our pupils shone.



Phone Pouches

We have seen a transformative effect, with classrooms becoming calmer and more productive. The system encourages pupils to stop frequently checking their phones, reducing anxiety and promoting better social interaction during breaks.



History Trip *(written by Year 10 pupils)*

Year 10 classes embarked on a trip to Whitechapel following our recent Whitechapel and crime and punishment learning. We travelled on a train into London.

We went on a tour through Whitechapel with our guide, Jeremy. He was funny and very knowledgeable. Later, we went to the Clink Prison Museum to see an old prison – and it was crazy to see how people used to be treated; we couldn't believe it! Later, we went to the market for a little while before it was time for the main event, The London Dungeon.

“The London Dungeon was great, and Mr Paterson was very scared (false!) but still had fun just like everyone else did. The staff and the students all very much enjoyed our trip and had a great day,” said Jimi T, Year 10.

“We walked around the streets of Whitechapel to learn about the murders of Jack the Ripper. We went to the park and learnt about the conditions homeless people slept in during the 1800s. We also saw the site of the Peabody estate.

“After lunch, we went to the Clink Prison Museum. We were able to sit in the torture chair and see what a prison cell looked like. We saw what people would have to wear when doing hard labour, and we were able to sit in the pillory.

“The last stop was the London Dungeons. This was really fun. We learnt about different torture techniques, were put on trial in a courtroom, and learnt about witches, the plague and Jack the Ripper.” – Year 10 pupils.



Football Training

The Year 11 football team completed a training day linked to New City College at the Tottenham Hotspur Training Centre.

This was a great opportunity to see how football can be showcased at Sixth Form level. Coaches picked out players Jack L, Kaelan G and Liam B. The pupils represented the school really well and, hopefully, the link can continue in the coming years.

