



Davenant Newsletter

Spring Term

SPRING TERM 2024
ISSUE 2

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Return to School after Easter: Tuesday 16th April - Week 2

Key Dates

Monday 15th April

INSET DAY

Thursday 18th April

Y10 Parents Evening

Friday 19th & Monday 22nd April

Y8 HPV Vaccine

Wednesday 24th April

Y12 Post-18 Information Evening

Thursday 2nd May

Y7 Parents Evening

Monday 6th May

Bank Holiday

Key Dates

Thursday 16th May

Y8 Parents Evening

Monday 29th April to Wednesday 8th
May

Y12 Exams

Friday 24th May

Last day of half term

Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May

Half term





Message from the Headteacher



Well the blossom on our Japanese Cherry Blossom trees have appeared and I am no longer driving to work in the dark. Just need the rain and floods to go and the field to open for students and we are there.

It has been a short half term but packed full with teachers and students working really hard. As exam season gets close Year 11 and 13 students (and Year 10 RE students) need to continue to build their understanding and exam techniques.

One of my favourite memories from this term was watching both casts perform Matilda. It is one musical that always puts a smile on my face and I enjoyed every minute of it. Well done to all those involved. I would like to also say a huge thank you to our Parents Association who have been working so hard this year, supporting and running events, raising money and getting sponsorship. We are so blessed to have such a supportive community. Please keep supporting their ventures as it helps us to provide so much for our students.



Have a wonderful Easter, enjoy family time. God Bless.

Mr Thorne

Performing Arts

Music events SUMMER term:

RECITAL FOR KS3 & KS4

21st May 2024

5-7pm School Hall

Look out for details on Google Classroom next term

SCHOOL SUMMER CONCERTS

Tuesday 9th JULY & Wednesday 10th JULY

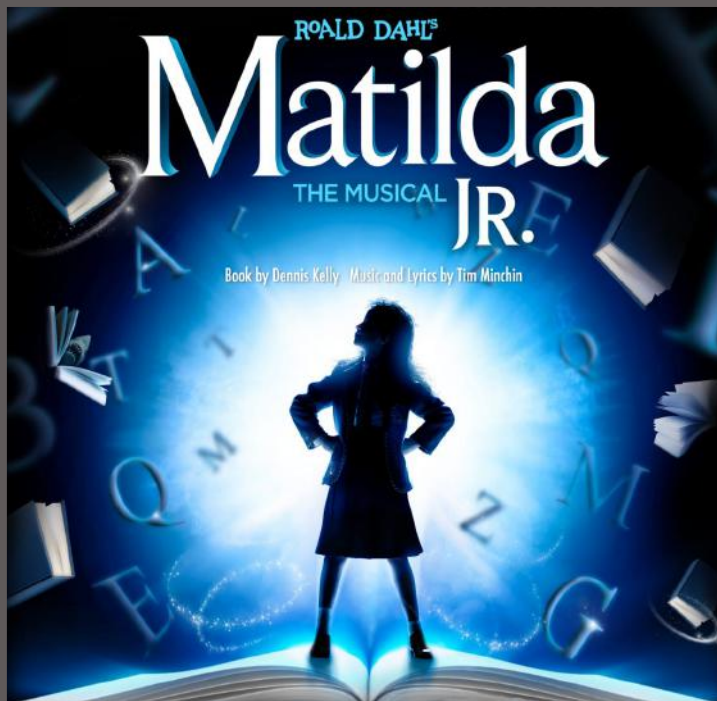
7pm— School Hall

Music Tuition

Sign up NOW for SUMMER TERM April—July 2024

ON PARENT PAY NOW

Closing Date for signing up 15th April 2024—see details



What a
show!



Interesting Stats:

Cast: 59 students

Crew: 11

Staff: 15

Audience: 654 over 4 performances

Batteries used for headsets: 128!

Rehearsal time: over 100 hours for 12 months

Scenery: 40+ hours building & painting

Design publicity: 10+ hours



At the start of March Davenant Foundation School presented "Matilda Jr.", a condensed version of the hit West End show "Matilda the Musical," which is specifically designed for younger performers and audiences. What a show it was!

The portrayals of Matilda, by R. McGovern and A. Rumbelow in the musical were nothing short of captivating. Matilda is a character who undergoes a remarkable transformation throughout the story, and the actors portraying her navigated this journey, capturing both her vulnerability and her inner strength believably. The young ladies sang proficiently memorable musical numbers in the show: "Naughty", "Quiet" and "When I Grow Up" with emotional depth and worthy of the spontaneous applause.

S. Marx and B. Hammond as Miss Trunchbull requires an actor with exceptional stage presence, physicality, and comedic timing, and both of these students delivered. In my opinion, Miss Trunchbull has the best musical numbers such the "The Hammer" and "The Smell of Rebellion" (I was singing this for days after with all the actions!) Both captured her authoritarian attitude and disdain for disobedience, while also providing moments of dark humour and absurdity. Coping entertainingly with the choreography, exaggerated movements and facial expressions despite the costume, makeup and wig!



Contrastingly, is the Miss Honey character who has a deep empathy for others, particularly Matilda. She was confidently acted and sang by M. Bentley and A. Osborn. Both ladies successfully portrayed Miss Honey as a truly unforgettable character whose warmth, sincerity, and strength of character leaves a lasting impression with the song "This Little Girl". Their performances convincingly a testament to the enduring power of kindness and the transformative impact characters like these (teachers!) can have on our own lives.



There were stand out performances by Mr. and Mrs. Wormwood, A. Tyzack and E. Anemouri, who's comically acted exaggerated personalities and over-the-top antics raised quite a few laughs. All of the remaining cast, each with their own quirks and personalities, did themselves proud. From the rebellious Bruce Bogtrotter (A. Duffett) to the timid Lavender (V. Michl and

E. Togwell), these characters add depth and texture to the story and showcased the talents of our young performers. The dance and musical numbers, in particular "School Song", "Smell of Rebellion", "Bruce" and (my favourite) the exceptional "Revoltin' Children" were a joy to watch with every child enjoying the whole number. The audiences, of over 650 across four performances, equally enjoyed the delightful theatrical experience.

Of course, none this happens without the behind-the-scenes team who spend many voluntary hours outside of school creating, building, rehearsing, recording and planning on a minimal budget. Special mentions go to Mrs P Allen who oversaw and made the scenery; Stage Crew, although overseen and trained by Mr Burns, are all students who ran the show largely by themselves from sound, backstage to lighting, Ms Ball for choreography, Mrs Tubb for musical rehearsal and direction and Mrs Flanagan for direction and choreography. We are very blessed to have talented and committed staff and crew to get this show on the road.



Reynolds Fund

Please help fund the many extra-curricular activities at Davenant by making a regular donation to the Reynolds Fund.

This Fund supports opportunities, enrichment activities, school trips and better facilities.

Just scan here now to set up a regular donation:



or visit
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/17600>

Arts Fund

If you enjoyed the Matilda performance and would like to make a one off donation to the Performing Arts department to support future productions and projects, please click here:



Or visit
<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/25084>



Music and Drama Tuition



Music Tuition starts again the week commencing the **22nd April 2024**

If your son/daughter is taking Music or Drama GCSE/A' Level then tuition will greatly aid their performance grade. Beginner piano skills are considered a distinct advantage to those taking music as the composition element of the course is programmed using the keyboard.

SUMMER MUSIC & LAMDA (Drama) TUITION

If you have not completed a Google Form in the School Year September 2023-24 then please complete a Google Form. If you have completed a form this school year we are assuming you are carrying on with lessons the SAME as the form unless you have informed me otherwise.

Please copy and paste this link for the Tuition Google Form: <https://forms.gle/Ut4jMi4KsGqEGfB96>

Payment must be received on Parent Pay by 14TH APRIL 2024. Please detail in the notes section the lesson/s you are signing up for. Applications after this date **will not be** successful. It is an 11 week term and so there is not enough time to chase up payments and set out the timetables before the lessons are due to start. There is only enough weeks for the timetables to exactly 10 weeks so limited time for catch up lessons.

This Google form MUST be completed if you are signing up for the first time lessons or if you are on PUPIL PREMIUM: <https://forms.gle/Ut4jMi4KsGqEGfB96> (please copy and paste this link into a browser to access the form)

- Remember to pay for lessons on PARENTPAY – the standard term fee for 10 weeks of 30 minutes is £205. Parent Pay option open now.
- If you require instrument hire: add £20 to lesson fee
- Please specify the instrument/singing/Drama to NOTES section

Lessons start week beginning **22ND APRIL 2024** for next term.



Music and Drama Tuition Continued

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO NOTE:

Lessons are timetabled during the school day. Lessons are usually on the same day of the week but times are rotated so that students do not miss too much of the same subject. The lesson time and day will be posted on their Google Classroom and is printed on a timetable outside the Music Office every FRIDAY for the following week. It is vital that students check these. Changes to the timetable MUST be requested by 11am the following MONDAY morning.

Lesson times are occasionally subject to change due to events outside our control (sporting events/assessments/room changes/teacher absence or schedules/other school events) so we advise students always to double check on the morning of the lesson. We will do all we can to make sure changes are communicated in good time and if a change is particularly short notice we may go and collect your child from their class to ensure they make their lesson.

If you need to change the lesson time booked (for example due to Dentist/Doctor appointments/Exams/assessments/family issues) you must give 48 hours' notice otherwise the lesson is still charged and not rescheduled. If you need to change a lesson and give sufficient notice we will endeavour to reschedule for the same day or add as a catch up lesson later in the term.

More information is available on the school website PERFORMING ARTS/Tuition and there are two documents on Talaxy covering the details.

If your child has school tuition it is mandatory that they join a school ensemble. Obviously those who learn outside school are more than welcome too!

If you still have questions please email: charlotte.santer@davenant.org who is the Performing Arts Administrator.

With best wishes,

Davenant Performing Arts Department



1801 points

Whitechapel



2081 points

Gillingham



1896 points

Salisbury

Spanish Language Leaders

On Tuesday 12th March we went to Alderton Primary School to deliver a Spanish lesson to the Year 4s. This was our second visit as we delivered our first lesson in January.

All the children were super sweet and made our experience so fun.

They are really keen to learn Spanish.

We will return to Alderton in May and are planning something exciting and exhilarating as it will be our final lesson with the Year 4s.

J. Spelling, M. Leffman, E. Marku, T Stephenson - Year 9.



Davenant Chess Tournament

20 students took part this year. It was close again, but M. Cousens, yet again, went unbeaten.

He beat Z. Douglass (Y9) in the final game.

Three girls took part this year - E. Plant topped the girls points scores (even though beaten in once game by A. Jewell).

A good Y7 debut by M. Gell, who made a great start beating a Y9 student.



Top 15 places in the final table

Final Table	Points	Year
M Cousens	21	10
F Machine	17	8
Z Douglass	17	9
L Gipson	16	8
M Gell	15	7
M Farmer	15	8
G Kurtev	15	8
E Plant	13	7
C Adams	13	8
L Stokes	13	9
J Prinsloo	13	9
O Biggs	10	8
T Escott	10	11
P de Sousa Reis	9	7
A Jewell	9	7



This year the Computing department entered a team of four into the National Cyber Security competition for Key Stage 3 students. The students:

- I Lester (Year 7)
- J Kelberman (Year 7)
- I Laing (Year 8)
- Z Douglass (Year 9)

competed against other schools nationwide and worked impressively as a team to complete the challenges and break the codes.

As a team they came 35th in the UK, placing as the highest team in Essex! Congratulations team!



Cyber Explorers, an initiative led by the UK Government, is an online learning programme for cyber security and is a free resource for aspiring young people to aim for careers in cyber. This year, they introduced the Cyber Explorers Cup, an innovative and inspiring competition designed to ignite a passion for cyber security among students aged 11-14 across the UK. This unique contest offered a blend of education, technology, and excitement, aiming to challenge young minds and introduce them to the ever-evolving world of cyber security whilst providing experience in critical thinking and teamwork.



Davenant Sport and Health



This Spring term has been extremely busy in PE with numerous opportunities for all years to get involved in a number of different sports and competitions including Football, Rugby, Cross Country, Indoor athletics, Sports Hall athletics, Basketball, Netball, Swimming, West Essex Schools Sports Partnership offering Trampolining, Archery, Indoor Golf, Karate and three separate interhouse events plus our usual comprehensive extra curriculum program.

Football News

ESSEX SCHOOLS CUP

We have had three teams make the final stages of their respective Essex Cups, namely Year 11 Boys who have reached the Semi Final, Year 9 Boys whose progress ended at the quarter final stage losing narrowly to Redden Court. The U16 Girls also reached the quarter finals but lost to Sandon School by just a single goal which was hugely disappointing for the girls as they were all over the opposition but just couldn't convert any of their well-worked chances into a goal. We are keeping our fingers crossed for the Year 11 to make the final.

The U19 Boys football team also had another successful season finishing in 3rd place in the league and once again reaching the semi finals of the League Cup. Unfortunately, it was the same team that beat us in the final last year (Beaumont School) that prevented us from progressing to the final this year. Next season we are hoping it will be third time lucky for Davenant.

WESSA DISTRICT FOOTBALL

With an extremely busy timetable of District football games we have produced two finalists: Year 8 have played all their fixtures away which has not been detrimental to their performances as they have won every single game and will now face a team from Harlow to determine the overall Harlow & West Essex 2024 Winners.

The other outstanding team is Year 7 who have not lost a fixture although they did draw just one game. They too will be facing Harlow opposition early in the summer term to find out the 2024 winners. We expect huge things from our Year 8 and 7s so both are under pressure to bring back the Trophies.



YEAR 7 HARLOW & WEST ESSEX FOOTBALL FINALISTS



YEAR 8 HARLOW & WEST ESSEX FOOTBALL FINALISTS

The girls smaller sided (6aside) WESSA District Championships has just been completed with our Year 7 girls team being highest placed finishing second after losing to King Harold Academy 1-0 in the final match of the day. So disappointing for the girls but the Team Manager was so proud of their performance throughout the event. The other teams Year 8, Year 9 and U16 finished in respectable places, proving to be very challenging opponents, but due to lack of experienced goalies and players availability on the day a minimum team of 6 players represented Davenant which didn't really reflect how outstanding the girls have been this year and the overall growth of girls football development at the school. We are certain that all the girls will excel in both 11 aside and 6aside competitions next season.

Essex Schools Year 7 & 8 Cross Country



This was the first secondary school cross country competition for the Year 7s but they were not overawed by the occasion with the boys doing exceptionally well finishing in 16th place which was the top half of the table. In fact, the overall Year 7 Boys Essex Champ was our very own E. Frith, an amazing achievement. The Year 7 Girls didn't fair quite so well as a couple were unable to finish the course as a result of falls. The Year 8s finished in 8th place for the boys top 25%, and the girls 11th place top 50% both of which were also beyond expectations.

YEAR 7 ESSEX CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPION - E. FRITH

Athletics (Indoor) & Sports Hall

The Year 7s took part in the first round of the Schools Indoor Athletics competition at the end of January where the boys and girls A teams qualified for the finals at the beginning of March. They represented Davenant very well with the Girls finishing 6th and the Boys 9th out of 48 schools – Great results and definitely raising our expectations for the outdoor season.



**YEAR 7 GIRLS A TEAM –
FINALISTS INDOOR ATHLETICS LVAC**



**YEAR 7 BOYS A TEAM –
FINALISTS INDOOR ATHLETICS**

The West Essex Sports Partnership organised the Sports Hall Athletics event for Year 7 and 8 boys and girls and Davenant dominated across the board, which means Year 7 Boys and Girls and Year 8 Boys and Girls will all be going to the finals in July. There is no stopping these year groups, we are all so proud of them!!



YEAR 7 GIRLS AND BOYS SPORTS HALL ATHLETIC WINNERS



YEAR 8 BOYS & GIRLS SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS WINNERS

Basketball

Three of the four basketball teams, Year 7, Year 8 and U16, made it through to the Harlow & West Essex District finals. The Year 7 Team A won all four games and the B team won two and lost two which made them winners and runners up bringing home the trophy and a bucket full of medals.

The Year 8s winning all four of their WESSA district qualifying event had them as favourite for the Harlow & West Essex final however they narrowly missed out in the semi final which left their spirits at rock bottom in the third place play off resulting in an unexpected 4th place overall – disappointment doesn't begin to describe their emotions at the end of the competition.



Year 7 BASKETBALL HARLOW & WEST ESSEX WINNERS

Basketball Continued

The U16 team played BMAT STEM at Passmore School in their final and won the event by 42-33, Davenant are now Harlow & West Essex Champions 2024. We have to mention that our very own M. Abidekun was MVP and the highest points scorer of the year.



U16 BASKETBALL HARLOW & WEST ESSEX WINNERS

Another success year for Davenant Basketball players – well done to all concerned.

Netball WESSA District

A good year for the Netball teams and a definite improvement on previous performances. The WESSA competition is run with a league finishing February half term followed by a one-day festival to determine the WESSA finalist. The four teams (year 7,8, 9 and U16) all completed their league with majority of the teams finishing in the top half of the table. The Year 9 started the festival events finishing in 3rd place followed by the U16s who finished in 2nd place and then the Year 7s took the top spot and will represent



YEAR 7 GIRLS NETBALL FINALISTS

the WESSA side of the borough against St Marks from Harlow after Easter. The Year 8s showed loads of potential and improved throughout the season but we have to work with them to get their potential translated into a winning streak.

RUGBY

Davenant hosted the Year 8 District Rugby finals early in January and our A team won all four of their games which allowed them to progress for the Harlow & West Essex final after Easter. We have to mention how well the B team did at the same event winning two out of their four fixtures a strong performance from the boys. We now have both year 7 and 8 in the District rugby finals on the 18th April being hosted by Harlow Rugby Club. It is definitely going to be a busy start to the summer term for Year 7 and 8 boys teams in both Football and Rugby finals!!!



The interhouse Rugby competition organised and delivered by the Sports captains ran like clockwork with Salisbury winning the Year 10/11, Year 9 and Year 8, Whitechapel took the honours in the Year 7 event. A brilliant occasion with more than 100 boys involved in the event.

SWIMMING

WHITECHAPEL - YEAR 7 INTERHOUSE RUGBY WINNERS

We hosted an U16 interschool gala between West Hatch and ourselves at the start of February and it was a very evenly contested event with the fairest result being a draw. It gave an opportunity for both schools to see the high level of swimming ability of both institutions. Well done Team Davenant.

The first interhouse event of the Spring term was a swim Gala that was well attended across the school, and while it was a closely fought event Whitechapel won the entire competition followed by Gillingham and then Salisbury.

OTHER EVENTS

The West Essex Sports Partnership organise additional activities for schools in the area and Davenant sent a team of 5 pupils along to take part in different activities at Debden Park High School in early March. The following are just a few pictures of the students representing Davenant. The report back from the teachers involved as well as the children was that it was a very enjoyable occasion and something they would love to be involved with in the future.



D GLADMAN - ARCHERY



O IGIEWE – KARATE



F SIMMANCE – TRAMPOLINING

For regular up-to-date information, news stories and results please follow us on Instagram @davenantpe.



Art and Design : Fine Art

A current Year 13 student, M. Jaye, who is studying Fine Art A Level, has painted a portrait of the UK's the first women Rabbi. Please see full details on the link below:

<https://essexjewishnews.co.uk/pioneer-rabbi-celebrated-on-canvas/>

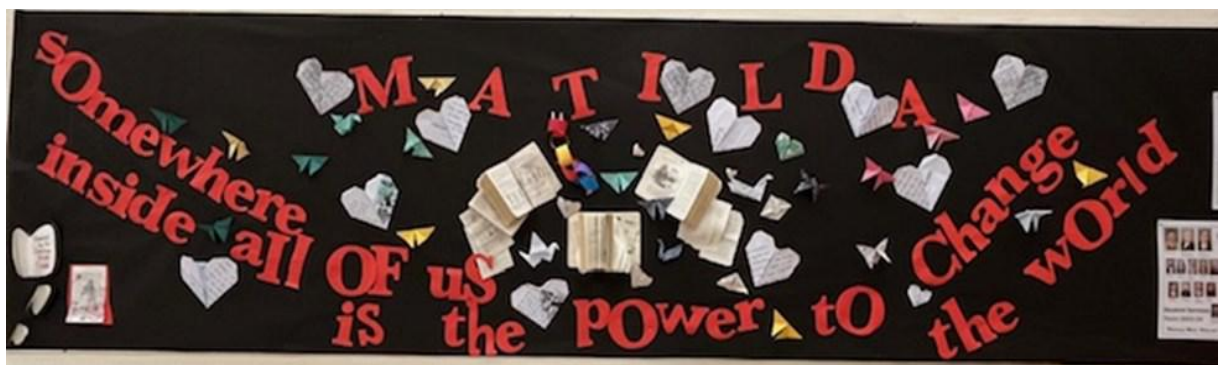


Art and Design : Fine Art Continued



Highlighting the wealth of career opportunities supported by a GCSE in Art, along with examples of GCSE work exploring the theme of portraiture and the natural form. Pencil studies, lino printing, mono printing and painting represent just some of the techniques covered during the GCSE course.

Creative Hub Club



The hall display; designed and produced by the Creative Hub Club to accompany the production of Matilda. Origami butterflies and hearts fly out of books representing the worlds that come alive when we read books.

HOUSE COMPETITION

Gillingham



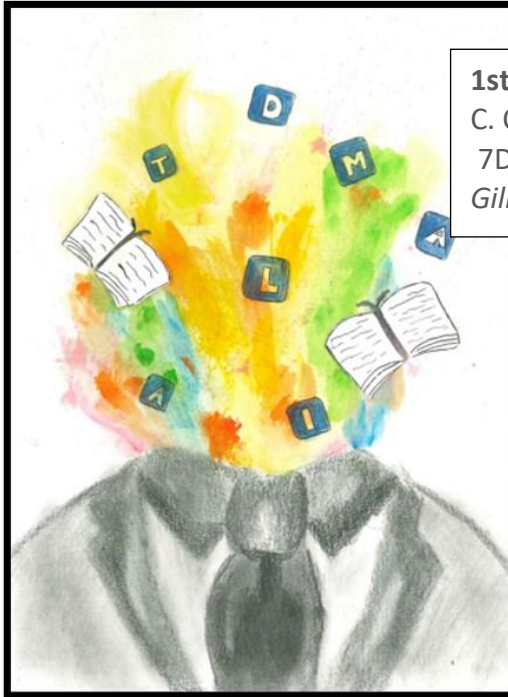
Salisbury



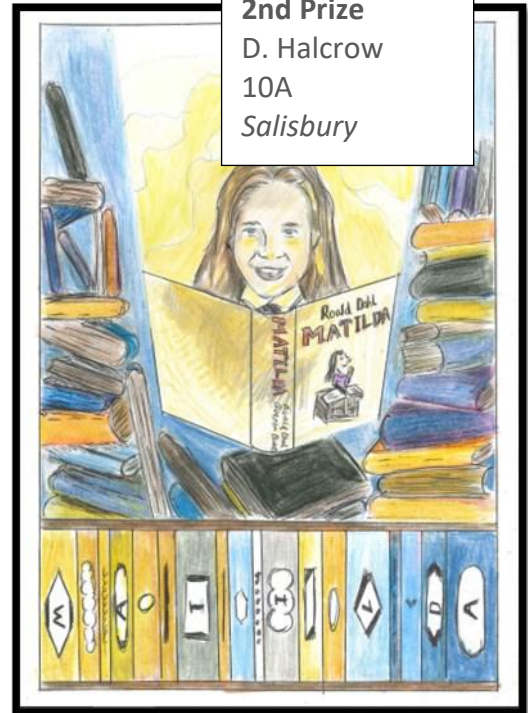
Whitechapel



Matilda
Mural
Winners



1st Prize
C. Crispin
7D
Gillingham



2nd Prize
D. Halcrow
10A
Salisbury



3rd Prize
J. Abrahams
9N
Salisbury

Happy Purim from the Jewish Society!

This week at JSOC we were joined by Rabbi Jordan for a Purim session, where we learned about the festival through a pop quiz whilst wearing fun hats and masks (on Purim we dress up to replicate the idea of Esther hiding her Jewish identity from the King). Typically, on Purim we eat hamantaschen, so we had some brought in by Rabbi Jordan and also a special delivery from Carmelis bakery which was sponsored by UJS.



Purim is a Jewish holiday that commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from annihilation at the hands of Haman. Haman, the king's highest official, planned to kill all the Jews in the kingdom.



Dear Parents/Carers

Well, what an eventful term it has been for the PA!

THANK YOU

Thank you to the Performing Arts Department for allowing us to serve refreshments at the utterly delightful Matilda productions!

Thank you to everyone who donated the fabulous prizes for the **Wonky Bar** Easter 'raffle' and thank you to those who purchased bars. It has been so lovely to see the children really enjoy this event and have some fun. So many happy **Golden Ticket** winners!

We managed to raise a grand total of £1,400.



LOCAL BUSINESSES SUPPORTING THE PA AND OUR SCHOOL

We are delighted to report that the PA has been successful in drumming up local business support for the school!

Churchill Estates, local Estate Agents are now proud sponsors of the PA having agreed to sponsor the PA funded element for the school minibuses!! This is truly excellent news!

Churchills are also committed to sponsoring up to 4 events a year through board sponsorship (generating an income of £2000 for the PA) so far, they have sponsored the Christmas Fair and Train to Teach - Essex Schools ITT boards. We ask for your continued support in board sign ups.



If anyone is thinking of using Churchills to sell their property, please mention the school as the PA will receive additional funding.



We are equally delighted to report that Crystal Windows and Doors Limited agreed to sponsor our cash prizes for last year's Christmas raffle (as well as the lovely Harrods bears), contributed towards the purchase of the chocolate bars for the Wonky bars "raffle" and have sponsored the purchase of 18 shiny new textbooks for the foreign languages department.

If anyone is thinking of replacing their double glazing and chooses Crystal Windows, please mention the school as the PA will receive extra funding.



We thank Churchill Estates and Crystal Windows and Doors Limited for their support and look forward to forging a mutually beneficial partnership.

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter Break and please look out for our summer term events on our Instagram and Facebook pages.

Your PA

davenantpa@hotmail.com



Initial teacher training with Essex Schools ITT



ESSEX SCHOOLS ITT



School-based teacher training with a flexible, online learning programme through Tes Institute. Obtain QTS with optional PGCE.

93%

Completion rate

(far higher than most providers or institutions)

100% pass rate for PGCE

TRAIN HERE AT DAVENANT OR AT ANOTHER LOCAL SCHOOL

45

Secondary & primary schools in our partnership... and growing!

100%

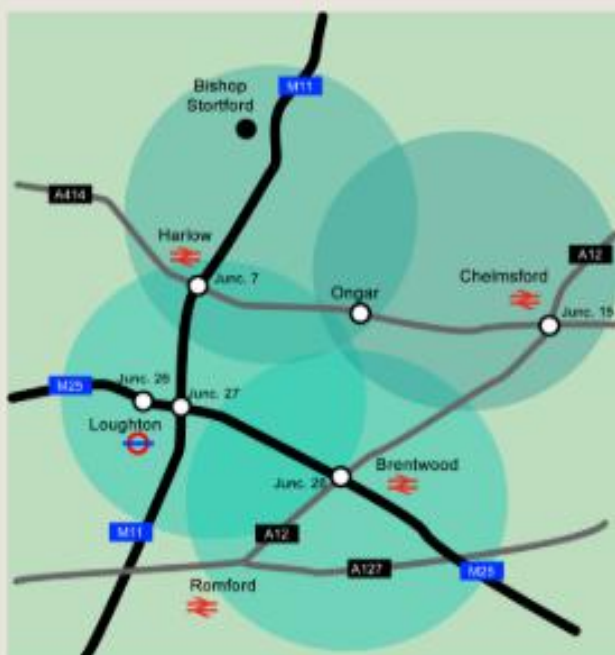
Employment rate in the last 10 years

Every year, around **75%** of trainees secure posts at their main placement school, or nearby partnership school

BURSARIES UP TO **£28K** PLUS FULLY-FUNDED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE ENHANCEMENT COURSES (PAYING £175 PW) FOR MANY SUBJECTS

PART TIME OPTION AVAILABLE FOR STRONG APPLICANTS - WE WELCOME CAREER CHANGERS AND THOSE RETURNING TO WORK AFTER RAISING FAMILIES

TEACHING OFFERS GENEROUS STARTING PAY AND EXCELLENT PROSPECTS FOR PROMOTION



OVER 35%

OF DAVENANT STAFF WERE TRAINED THROUGH OUR PARTNERSHIP. OUR ALUMNI INCLUDES:



8

Heads of Department & Heads of Year



2

Assistant Heads

The last **4** Science teachers we employed were all ex-trainees



teach@essexschoolsitt.com
020 8498 6718
www.essexschoolsitt.com




SCAN ME



ESSEX
SCHOOLS
ITT






Davenant Foundation School

Prayer Letter: March to April 2024

Such love, pure as the whitest snow;
such love weeps for the shame I know;
such love, paying the debt I owe;
O Jesus, such love.



Such love, stilling my restlessness;
such love, filling my emptiness;
such love, showing me holiness;
O Jesus, such love.

Such love, springs from eternity;
such love streaming through history;
such love, fountain of life to me;
O Jesus, such love.

With this being such a short term and yet a busy one, I have decided to postpone the prayer meeting until the beginning of next term when we will pray in particular for the up-and-coming external examinations.

In the meantime, please use the song above for meditation and pray that we, as a community, will know the reality of the forgiveness, wholeness, and the power of the saving love of God this Easter.

May we as a community know the reality and power of God's salvation and justification reaching across time and space during our times of worship and praise this Holy week.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
Who in your tender love towards the human race
Sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
To take upon him flesh
And to suffer death upon the cross:
Grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility,
And also be made partakers of his resurrection;
Through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
Who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever.
Amen

