

Etc.

The newsletter for Cornelius Vermuyden School
Issue 29 | Summer 2023





Welcome Back...

W

elcome to the final edition of Etc the academic year. This edition marks the end of an incredible year.

I can't quite believe that I am writing the final editorial of this academic year; a year which seems to have flown by! It has been another exceptionally busy one with a wide myriad of issues arising for the sector throughout the year, many of which have been very challenging for us all. There have also been some amazing highlights and new

developments, however, which I would wish to remember and reflect upon. I hope that you take the time to read this edition and see a snapshot of some of the amazing work that has been happening within our school community.

The summer break is a time to regroup, to reflect on the lessons of the past year, to think of the year that lies ahead. It's also time to immerse ourselves in the things that matter most - time with family and friends, time

away from work/school, aided by the books, films, music and sport that help us to escape. It's time to reconnect with the things that make us human.

I take this opportunity to thank staff for their immense efforts this year, students for their commitment and endeavours, and parents/carers for their on-going support.

I wish you all a lovely summer break.

Jack Petchey

Nominations 2023



Louie Marney

Not only is Louie an outstanding student, but he is a model citizen and a shining example to us all. Over Christmas, Louie visited London with his family, and was heartbroken to see so many homeless people struggling. Appalled by this, he decided to return a few days later to distribute food which he had made especially for them. An inspiration.



Megan Parks

Since Megan joined Cornelius, she has consistently shown an exemplary attitude to learning across all areas of her education. Megan is always willing to get involved in extra-curricular activities, including several sports teams, and she has been a regular participant at Debate Club often researching the week's topic in detail, before attending. Megan has used her funds to buy Kindles for use by students.



Harley Clarke

Year 9 student Harley Clarke, took part in a sponsored walk for St. Luke's Hospice in memory of a family member. Harley raised £790 and was rewarded with a medal by St. Luke's to celebrate his achievements. Harley is an excellent example for his peers and the community. Well done Harley.



Year 10 George Breeding

George Breeding is an embodiment of dedication and perseverance. With unwavering determination, he tackles every challenge that comes his way. As a dedicated student, he consistently puts in long hours and goes above and beyond to achieve outstanding results. His relentless work ethic inspires his peers, who look up to him as a role model. George's unwavering commitment to excellence, combined with his humility and integrity, makes him an exemplary figure who motivates others.



Year 10 Rachel Mansfield

Rachel is president of the Canvey Island Rotary Club and has worked with the school and students to develop a number of projects. She arranged all the school meetings to discuss raising money for charities or other ways that students can support them.



Callum Wells for outstanding achievement

Over the Easter break, Callum attended a 3-day workshop on film production with an ex-BBC producer, where he worked with two other young people to create a short film. The film was called 'The Creature' and is in the horror / thriller genre. As a team, they scripted, directed, edited and starred in the film. Callum is incredibly proud of his fantastic achievement, he has learned many new skills from his experience and has since expressed that he would like to pursue a career in film editing.



Year 7 – The year so far

As we come to the end of the students' first year at Cornelius, I would like to pay tribute to the hard work of the Year 7 tutor team - Ms Sully, Ms Carus, Miss Day, Miss Rea, Miss Gupta. Their energy and commitment to the students has been outstanding and as a year group, the transformation of the students has been remarkable. I am sad to have to say goodbye to Ms Carus and Miss Gupta who will be leaving for pastures new. I know that they will be missed but wish them good luck in their future roles.

I hope that you all have an enjoyable Summer break and thank you once again for your continuing support. It has been a genuine pleasure to get to know the students and their families.

Ms Marsden (Head of Year 7)

Year 8 – The year so far



The end of Year 8 is always a time to look back on the successes of the year. Improved attendance and punctuality, and a rise in the amount of positive praise points have all helped to make

this year a positive one. There are always areas for each student to improve on and the Summer break is a good time to reflect, look back and reset ourselves. Next year sees the option process take place and Year 9 will get an opportunity through timetabled lessons to try small parts of possible option subjects. I wish all of our students a happy and healthy Summer and look forward to the new challenges Year 9 will bring.

Mr Chittock (Head of Year 8)

Year 9 – The year so far



As the end of Year 9 and the start of Year 10 approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the 39 Year 9 students who are yet to receive a single behaviour point. These students go about their

day-to-day school life without needing constant reminders about behaviour and often fly under the radar. This is the standard that I am hoping all Year 10 students will meet next year and that these 39 students can be the leading examples for this.

I would also like to congratulate all Year 9 students who have represented Cornelius during the District Athletics, Rounders' Rallies and the Disney Netball Tour. You were a credit to the year group and the school, and achieved some amazing results.

I would like to wish all Year 9 students a fun and relaxing 6-week Summer break and that you return in September ready to engross yourselves into your GCSE options.

Mr Coubrough (Head of Year 9)

Year 10 – The year so far

I am immensely proud of my students as they approach Year 11, a crucial stage in their academic journey. Witnessing their growth and maturity fills my heart with joy. They have displayed exceptional dedication and commitment, evident in their remarkable performance during the mock exams. Their hard work and preparation paid off, reflecting their determination to succeed. It is gratifying to see them confidently tackling challenging questions and demonstrating a deeper understanding of the subjects. Their progress is a testament to their resilience and the supportive learning environment we have fostered together. I have no doubt that they will continue to excel and achieve great things in the future.

Have a great Summer,
Mr Lill (Head of Year 10)



Year 11 – The year so far

As the academic year comes to a close, I wanted to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we have all shared together. It has been a year filled with challenges, growth, and memorable experiences. Despite the difficulties we faced, I am immensely proud of each and every one of you for your perseverance and determination.

Throughout this year, you have shown great resilience in adapting to new learning environments and embracing the changes that came your way. You have demonstrated remarkable strength in the face of uncertainty, and your commitment to your studies has been truly commendable.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our amazing teaching staff who have tirelessly supported you in your academic pursuits. Their guidance, expertise, and unwavering belief in your abilities have played a crucial role in your success. Remember to express your gratitude to them for their unwavering commitment to your education.

Beyond your academic achievements, I have witnessed the growth of a vibrant and compassionate community within Year 11. You have supported and encouraged each other, fostering an environment of camaraderie and friendship. These bonds will undoubtedly last a lifetime, and I hope you cherish the memories you have made together.

As you prepare to embark on your next chapter, whether it be further education, vocational training, or entering the workforce, remember that you are equipped with the skills and knowledge to thrive. Trust in yourselves and have confidence in your abilities. Embrace the opportunities that lie ahead and face any challenges with determination and resilience.

I encourage you to take some time to reflect on your personal growth and achievements throughout this year. Celebrate your successes, no matter how big or small, and be proud of the progress you have made. Remember that success is not always measured by grades alone but also by the lessons learned, the friendships formed, and the personal growth achieved.

Finally, I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to each and every one of you on completing Year 11. You have reached an important milestone in your educational journey, and I have no doubt that you will continue to achieve great things in the future. Stay curious, stay passionate, and never stop pursuing your dreams.

Enjoy a well-deserved break during the holidays, recharge your batteries, and return with renewed enthusiasm for the next chapter of your lives. Remember, the best is yet to come.

Wishing you all the best for your future endeavours.

Mrs Lee-Sang (Head of Year 11)

A year in the life of a Year 7 student

I have really enjoyed this year. It has challenged me academically which I have loved. An example of this has been learning a new language. I am enjoying Spanish lessons so much, that I have been continuing my studies outside of school. I look forward to each lesson, and learning new words and phrases. I don't just love Spanish at school. I enjoy being in the classroom and feel a real sense of belonging to the school and my tutor group. I am so happy to have met new friends from other schools, and know that I will be able to build on these friendships next year. Bring on Year 8. I can't wait!!

Amy Budd Year 7

This year, I have found learning about the Tudors in History lessons fascinating. The lessons are so interactive and interesting. We have all become budding historians. I have felt so welcome here at Cornelius. The teachers work so hard to make everyone feel valued and part of a community. All our lessons are really well thought out and we learn something new every lesson. I have also met lots of new people and have made some wonderful new friends. I feel so much more confident now about myself and love talking to new people from different classes and different primary schools. I am really looking forward to Year 8 and hopefully we will get to go on some school trips! Fingers crossed!

Kendall Mclean Year 7

I think I can confidently say that as a collective, we have found the school very welcoming and enjoyable. At the start, it seemed a huge space and a bit scary, however, as the year progressed our Year 7 community became established and now we all feel really comfortable to be here. When asked what are you most looking forward to next year, we would probably say trips, as we haven't been able to go on any this year. So hopefully!!! As for lessons, we are excited to meet our new teachers and take our learning to the next level, but we will miss our Year 7 teachers too. They have really looked after us this year. There have been lots of highs and the occasional low - but that is normal for any school and the highs have definitely outweighed the lows. This has been a very good year.

Skye Godwin Year 7

Brilliant Club



The Brilliant Club is an opportunity for some of our most academically talented students to receive additional lessons from a university tutor. In the Spring term, selected Year 10 students worked with Jennifer Morris, who led a course based on her research entitled 'Collecting an Empire: Museums, Science and Colonialism'. Their

final assessments all received the highest grades, First and 2:1, and they were proud to attend a graduation event at the University of Essex on Wednesday 3rd May, where they had the opportunity to tour the university campus and learn more about studying at degree level.

This term, a group of Year 8 students have gone 'Inside

Number Ten' to learn about the role of the British Prime Minister in the post-war years in a course led by Bhakti Deodhar. At the time of writing, the results are in, with some excellent achievements, and students are looking forward to their graduation on Tuesday 11th July.



Art Exhibition

In July, the school held a moderation exhibition, where students who have chosen to study GCSE Art or Photography show their work to a visiting assessor. Students were selected to choose work from their portfolios to support their sketchbooks and final pieces for display. As with every year, we are always impressed with the high standard of work that is

produced and the unique images that are created. Although we do not know the outcome of the visit, which will happen in August, we are very proud of the work and dedication of our students. In October, we intend to have an Art Exhibition for students, parents, staff and governors of work produced by every student on our GCSE courses.



Performing Arts

It has been another busy year. Next year we look forward to welcoming Miss Williams as the new Head of Drama, and the return to a reinvigorated calendar of shows, plays, concerts and hopefully even an Eisteddfod! (Creative Arts Competition - very big in Wales where Miss Williams is coming from). Bands continue to surface out of thin air at the moment - we have Year 7 band rocking out to Dire Straits' Money for Nothing; Year 8 band with selections from The White Stripes and the Zac

Brown band; Year 10 boys with Canvey's equivalent to Goldie Lookin Chain with their spin on being a hip hop collective; also in Year 10 - a boy band; a girl band and a rock band! It is always a privilege to see the enthusiasm of the students rehearsing and the joy it brings them, and I look forward to this ethos becoming ever more infectious. Happy Holidays!

Leigh Beck Nursery visit



Tuesday 4th July was a great day for Child Development students who visited Leigh Beck Nursery. Students got the opportunity to watch children play live in the local early years setting. They were completely immersed into the situation; playing with sand, building towers and having their hair brushed by 3 and 4 year olds. This is just a snippet of the fun had by the current Year 10. However, there was a serious reason for this exciting time out of their lessons, coursework! This

year's assessment focus is observing 3 & 4 year old children in physical development. The Year 10 will now use the observations to evaluate their findings and compare them with the expected development norms. They will also plan play activities that will support and extend the children's learning and development. Mrs Smart was very proud of the conduct shown by the Year 10 students and has enjoyed listening to all their stories. One child described the students as police officers because they were in Uniform.



Maths

We've had a busy Summer term with students meeting our new staff Mrs Stoner, Mr Vandal and Mr Thompson. Our students have warmed to their new teachers quickly and are enjoying their lessons where they have been studying a range of topics including probability, sequences, indices, and transformations. The students have also been introduced to a new homework platform called SPARX Maths which will be replacing Hegarty Maths in September. SPARX Maths is a

piece of software that personalises each student's homework to match our scheme of learning and each individual student's ability level making homework more accessible for all. Years 7, 8 and 9 have enjoyed using SPARX with many students saying they prefer it to Hegarty Maths. Year 10 will be introduced to the new programme over the last few weeks of term ready to start fresh in September.

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award 2023



On Friday 16th June, 18 enthusiastic Year 10 students met at Danbury outdoors, excited for their Bronze expedition to begin. Walking for two days, approximately 6 hours each day, is a considerable challenge, but I am pleased to say all groups excelled in this area. They demonstrated excellent map reading skills and worked well as a team, which are crucial aspects of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Arriving at the campsite with plenty of time to set up their luxury tents and cook their meals shows their efficiency and organisation. The students even had enough energy to play a giant game of hide and seek!!

The next day, the students embarked on their return journey with lighter backpacks and high spirits. Once again, all teams successfully navigated their way back to Danbury Park, demonstrating their competent map reading skills. Receiving positive feedback during the assessor's debrief and being told that they had all passed the expedition section of their award, was a moment of great pride and accomplishment for the students. This experience will not only contribute to their personal growth and self-confidence but also serve as a memorable milestone in their journey towards completing the Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze award.





Hay Literary Festival

On Friday 26th May 2023, our library team was selected to take part in the livestream at Hay Literary Festival where students were able to take part in different groups to watch authors. Key Stage 3 students were able to take part in workshops with authors to understand how to bring their own creative writing to life with inspiring interactive

activities and conversations. Hay Festival is the world's leading festival of ideas, bringing readers and writers together to look at new fiction and non-fiction texts, whilst offering insights and debate around significant global issues. Our students took part in the following events :

Bear Grylls in conversation with Tori James about his talk on his book 'Mind Fuel'



In this, talk Year 7 students were able to hear from Bear Grylls, one of the world's most recognised adventurers, who spoke about daily tips to help to build mental resilience. He used ideas from his survival experience to share the principles that have helped him overcome fear, develop a positive mindset and break through the obstacles that limit success in everyday life. He was also able to have a look at eight key themes – wisdom, battles, motivation, courage, relationships, self-care, spirituality and determination. Our students can take out 'Mind Fuel' from the Mental Health section of our school library.

Dr. Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE and her talk on 'Am I Made of Stardust?'

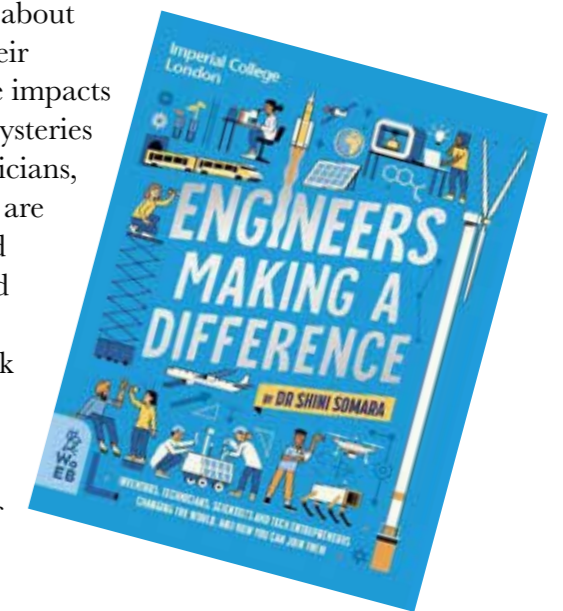
In this session, Year 9 students were able to talk to Dr Maggie about her pioneering work in space. She is a space scientist who was appointed MBE for her services to science and education. She is committed to inspire new generations of astronauts, engineers and scientists by demonstrating her understanding of the universe, the solar system and space exploration. We are also lucky enough to have her text 'Am I Made of Stardust' in our school library for any student to read.



Dr. Shini Somara and her talk on 'Engineers Making A Difference'

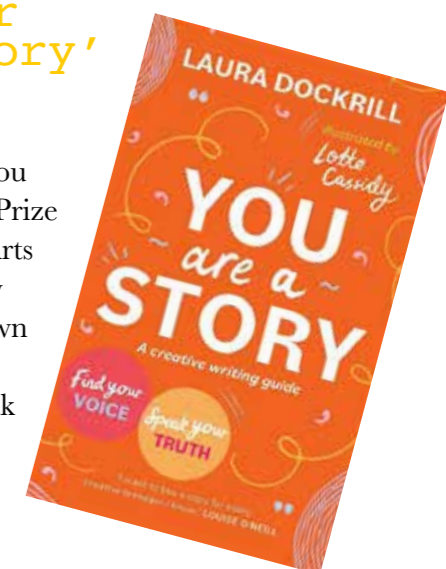


In this talk, Year 8 were able to think about the difference they can all make in their educational journey, from battling the impacts of climate change to unlocking the mysteries of fusion energy; the inventors, technicians, scientists and tech entrepreneurs that are making a difference and are part of the exciting and diverse world of engineering. Engineers are problem solvers and innovators, and embarking on an engineering career will give us all a chance to tackle some of the world's toughest challenges. This also had a link to British Science Week 2023 and the students were able to find out about other inventions and how human needs are looking at more and more innovators in society. We have many books in the library for students to take home to read in our sciences section of the library, as well as our new books section.



Laura Dockrill and her talk on 'You are a Story'

All students were able to take part during their breaktime in understanding the key theme of 'you are enough'. Laura Dockrill, who is a YA Book Prize shortlisted author and Brit School Performing Arts graduate, delivered a superb masterclass on how you can play in your imagination to find your own voice and use it to express yourself and become a creative writing superstar. This event really influenced our Creative Minds club, who on Monday, Break Two every week meet up and create their own stories which by the end of the year they hope will be published and printed in our school library for the whole school to read.





The Power of Voice

During this programme, our students are able to empower themselves by telling the stories that matter to them, harnessing the power of writing to share experiences with a real audience and drive change.

The National Literacy Trust arranged on Friday 30th June 2023 to work with the professional author of Kuchenga, who is a writer, journalist and speaker with work on many media platforms including British Vogue and Netflix. Our Year 7 and 8 students were asked to develop techniques and skills such as independent research, exploring different perspectives, communicating ideas, writing independently and editorial examination of their work.

Our students were encouraged to explore their civic identities and use their own voices to reach a

specific audience through selecting a form for their piece. As a result of this programme, the group of Year 7 and 8 students will be encouraged to explore the use of their home languages and dialects as part of our Young Writers team. The Reading Team at Cornelius were able to help our youngsters have their opinions and voices heard, and to share the stories that matter to them, and to drive change in our school and community through the power of writing.

This will continue to link to our Creative Minds enrichment programme that is run by two of our students Jayden and Hollie on a Monday, Break Two in our school library, all students are welcome to attend and continue to develop the power of their voices.

Miss Mayhew



Lit in Colour Pioneer



We are excited to announce that Cornelius Vermuyden School has been selected as one of 100 secondary schools and colleges

in England, to be a Lit in Colour Pioneer with Penguin, The Runnymede Trust and Pearson Exam Board.

As part of the Pioneers programme, we have received extensive guidance and resources for teaching English Literature set texts by Black, Asian and minority ethnic writers, to ensure

that our school has inclusion and diversity at the forefront of our curriculum and learning. We are lucky enough to have been able to get free access to:

- Copies of the chosen set texts for a year group donated by publishers, Refugee Boy by Benjamin Zephaniah (Penguin).
- A Lit in Colour mini library

including 300 free Penguin books by writers of colour designed for all age groups, together with colourful posters and artwork.

• A reading for pleasure club where the texts for our mini library will be included in our Literary Society club in our library enrichment programme. We can't wait for our students to have access to this programme and our students are thrilled to have the opportunity to

become more compassionate and inclusive in our school's attitudes and beliefs. We are more committed than ever to making the curriculum as representative as possible, to open up our students' minds to the world outside their neighbourhoods, and to ensure that no young person feels excluded by the books we teach and read. By having this exciting partnership with Penguin and a

host of fantastic publishers, we can work to inspire and empower our students to keep the drive for diversity in motion.

We believe that books create belonging and they help us to see each other and understand one another where they shine a light on different worlds and stories.

We are so excited that our library is able to reflect the rich diversity of the society we live in.



Understanding Refugee Week 2023 with Author Tom Palmer and the National Literacy Trust

Refugee Week took place from 19th to 25th June 2023 and the theme this year was Compassion. Refugee Week is a UK-wide festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Refugee Week 2023 invited people to celebrate what compassion looks like in action and show how arts and culture can help widen our circles of compassion. This event built on the five new stories written by Tom Palmer, exploring key themes for Refugee Week and enabling students to ask their own questions about the stories and Tom's motivation and practice for writing. Tom Palmer is an author of fifty-seven children's books from his Football Academy series to his war texts, such as the winner of the 2023 Berkshire Book Award 'Resist' which shines a light on the incredible work of the WW2 Dutch resistance. The tales show the plight of refugees escaping persecution by boat and cover different contexts and periods of time, from the 17th century to today. Year 8, with Miss Mayhew, Mr Chittock and Miss Carlile were able to take part in the online Q & A event led by Tom, talking with other authors who have developed the real-life refugee and migrant journeys graphic novel *The Power of Welcome*. All of these authors have been inspired by their own experiences as refugees. Some of these authors were Nadine Kaadan from Syria, Ada Jusic from Bosnia, Ramzee Hassan from Somalia. Each story has an informative introduction about the country, written by Bali Rai. Our school community has also been able to hear one of Tom Palmer's Boat People stories titled 'Denmark to Sweden' set in 1945 where he read his story to the Cornelius Vermuyden students during our Friday Author Talks. The students really enjoyed taking part in this live streamed talk with these authors and have even been inspired to develop their own creative writing stories based on the narratives they have heard during these events.



A great day for the community and Cornelius Vermuyden School

For the second year running, the Rotary Club of Canvey Island teamed up with the Cornelius Vermuyden School for the Big Fun Day on Sunday 25th June 2023.

A total of 42 stallholders, 5 fast food providers, games and rides, and a plethora of local charities took to the field on what was one of the hottest Sundays we have had. At one point, it was 33 degrees in the centre of the field causing sweets and chocolates to melt and even the wax stall had to call it a day as all her products were melting too!

We had entertainment from the Infinity Twirlers, Strollercise, Canvey Community Choir, the Canvey Island Strummers and the Sutherland Drum and Pipe Band. All of whom deserve a huge round of applause for performing and keeping us entertained in the heat. To add to the fun, the

Thundersley Superhero Alliance came along to entertain us as well as Paw Pups and even a couple of dinosaurs. How they managed in full costumes in the heat is a mystery and well done to them for staying the whole afternoon. And for all the petrol heads, there was a magnificent car show with everything from the classics to American muscle cars. Thanks must go to our fantastic volunteers who kept the day moving from set up to end of day, and special thanks to the young people of the 1st and 5th Canvey Scout Groups who did such an amazing job with marshalling the car park.

We were also delighted to welcome several dignitaries including the Deputy Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Dr Margaret Wilson as well as Rebecca Harris MP, both the Mayor of Canvey town Council and of Castlepoint, several councillors and Ray

Howard MBE. They enjoyed being shown round by our President, Rtn John Clarke and have told me how impressed they were with the whole event. The main point of the event of course, is it is for the community. The money raised from the day will be shared 50/50 between the Cornelius Vermuyden School and the Rotary Club. The event could not have taken place without the support of Mr Hockey, Head Teacher and Mr Wilson, Business Manager both of whom gave Rotary a free rein in using the school grounds, sports hall and facilities. 2024 – well who knows. This event takes nine months to prepare so maybe we will do something a little different next time – watch this space and enjoy the summer holidays. Rtn Anne Earl Rotary Club of Canvey Island



A Night to Remember

The highly anticipated Year 11 prom, a dazzling evening of glitz and glamour, unfolded on Friday 30th June, leaving a trail of unforgettable memories in its wake. The venue was transformed into a mesmerising wonderland, adorned with twinkling fairy lights and elegant decorations, setting the stage for an enchanting affair. Decked out in resplendent gowns and dapper tuxedos, the students arrived with infectious excitement, radiating charm. Laughter and joy filled the air as they danced the night away, celebrating the culmination of years of hard work and camaraderie. The highlight of the evening was the crowning of the Prom King Bobby Wakeling and Prom Queen Nancy Spink, two outstanding individuals who had

won the hearts of their peers with their charisma and kindness. Amidst cheers and applause, they were handed their well-deserved crowns, sealing their place in prom history. As the night drew to a close, bittersweet emotions surfaced, knowing that this chapter of their lives was coming to an end. However, the memories forged during the Year 11 prom will forever be cherished, reminding each student of their incredible journey together. In the end, the Year 11 prom was not just a celebration, but a testament to the unity and spirit of an extraordinary group of young individuals, embarking on their journey towards a bright and promising future.



Photos: Carmel Jane Photography



Year 11 Leavers' Assembly



Celebrating Milestones and Embracing the Future
As the school year comes to a close, Year 11 students gathered one last time for their highly anticipated Leavers' Assembly. It's a bittersweet occasion, marking the end of their secondary education journey while embracing the exciting adventures that lie ahead. The assembly was a heartwarming mix of nostalgia, pride, and anticipation. The students reflected on the memories they've created together, from the first awkward day in Year 7 to the triumphs and challenges they faced as they matured academically and personally. Teachers and staff commended the students' growth and accomplishments, emphasising their resilience during unprecedented times. Amidst farewell speeches and tears, the assembly also focused on the future. Students were encouraged to embrace the opportunities that await them, reminding them that their potential knows no bounds. As the final chapter of their school life concludes, Year 11 students left the assembly with a mix of emotions, cherishing the past and eagerly embracing the vast possibilities the future holds.



Praise Points Achievement

In every school, there are exceptional students who consistently go above and beyond, setting themselves apart from their peers through their dedication, commitment, and outstanding achievements. These outstanding individuals often earn recognition in the form of praise points, a system that rewards students for their academic

performance, extra curricular involvement, leadership skills, and positive contributions to the school community. I would like to take a moment to recognise the top five students from each year group for the huge number of praise points they have received (over 3000 praise points for the students named below!!)

YEAR 7

Jace Meadows
Ryan Joel
Layla Walsh

Josh Kneen
Harry Armstrong-Smith

YEAR 8

Leah Dovey
Megan Parks
Hollie May

Tavonga Chindanya
William Billington

YEAR 9

Amy Barry
Imogen Gardiner
Charlotte Penn

Harry Dolby
Lilly-Lu Huckstepp

YEAR 10

Rachel Mansfield
Maddison Verrillo
Katie Logan

Izabella Olivera-Pinto
Sean Loreto

These students embody the core values of our school community: respect, resilience, and responsibility. Their achievements are not merely a reflection of their individual successes but also a testament to the wider support systems that

surround them. We congratulate all of our students who have excelled in earning praise points. May their accomplishments inspire all of us to push our boundaries, pursue our passions, and strive for excellence in all aspects of our lives.

Swim England East Region Age Group Championships



Ashton Blake, Year 8 student, qualified for the East Region Age group swimming Championships in April and May, and competed in the 9 events over 2 weekends. These events were:

- 50m freestyle
- 100m freestyle
- 200m freestyle
- 50m fly
- 100m fly
- 200m fly
- 200m IM
- 400m freestyle
- 400m IM

He qualified for 2 finals; 100m fly and 200m fly. He finished 4th in the Region in the 100m fly and 2nd (silver) in the 200m fly.

In addition, with the 400m events which are timed finals Ashton came 8th in freestyle and 7th in IM. This is an incredible achievement, massive well done.

East Region Open Water Swimming Event

On the 9th July, the East Region Open Water Swimming Event was held at Whitlingham Broad, Norwich.

The event is made up of four distances, 1km, 2km, 3km and 5km. Two of our students, Keira Martin and Ashton Blake who have been swimming competitively at a high level, took part in the event. Both Keira and Ashton swam in the 3km freestyle distance.

Both swimmers did their clubs proud, turning in impressive times of 00:50:20.17 for Keira and 00:46:17.22 for Ashton.

These results placed both Keira and Ashton third fastest in Essex, picking up the bronze medal for this discipline within their groups.

A massive WELL DONE to Keira and Ashton for this amazing achievement!!!!!!





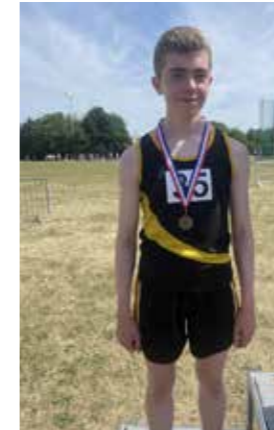
Castle Point and Rochford Junior District Athletics Competition

On Thursday 22nd June, a squad of 64 athletes set off at 7am for Garon Park athletics track in Southend. The action packed programme for the day got underway at 08:30 and ran right through until 16.00. It was great to see so many Cornelius students competing, some experiencing an athletics competition for the first time. As a team, Cornelius students gave it their all, in very hot conditions. As a department we are very proud of the efforts of

each and every athlete and how well they conducted themselves throughout the day whilst representing the school. It wasn't long before results started to filter through which created a real buzz as we were hearing of students who had made finals, students with medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishes, personal bests and even a new school record which had stood since 2016. Special mention to the following athletes:



YEAR 7
 Grace Ash – Discus 21.03m
DISTRICT CHAMPION – NEW SCHOOL RECORD
 Michelle Bushell – Javelin – 15.93m – 2nd place
 Addi Ive – Javelin – 22.16m – 2nd place
 Harry Yates 300m – 48.34s – 3rd place



YEAR 8
 Emerson Cook Javelin – 20.00m – 3rd place
 Jack Weston Shot – 10.02m – 2nd place
 Louis Martin Shot – 9.80m – 3rd place
 Joseph Princiotta-Halls 1500m – 5.04.62s – 3rd place

YEAR 9
 Olivia Westerberg 200m – 28.89s – 2nd place
 Ashton Marson High Jump – 1.55m – 2nd place
 Dexter White Discus – 26.17 – 3rd place

As a result of their fantastic achievements at this competition, Addi Ive, Grace Ash and Michelle Bushell were then selected to represent the district at the Essex Schools Athletics competition. A big thank you and huge congratulations to all who competed



Senior District Athletics

This year the senior district athletics competition took place on Wednesday 10th May at Basildon Sporting Village. It was great to see students perform in this competitive environment and really benefiting from their efforts in training. Special mention to the following students that were chosen to represent Castle Point and Rochford District at the Essex Schools Competition in June, based on their fantastic performances:
 Liam Bedford - Shot Put 2nd
 Emily Dilliway - Shot Put 1st
 Ellesse Terry - Hurdles 2nd and High Jump 3rd
 Spiros Lagopodis - Long jump 2nd
 Congratulations and well done to all who represented the school. PE Dept



University of Essex: Year 10 Shakespeare Day



On Wednesday 19th April, 50 of our Year 10 students were lucky enough to spend the day at The University of Essex, in Colchester to experience a taste of undergraduate life. Student ambassadors from the university were on hand to escort us through the beautiful campus, on a lovely Spring day, and to mingle with the students on their way to lectures and seminars. Once seated in a lecture theatre, we were treated to the most wonderful production of Macbeth, which our Year 10s have studied for GCSE English

Literature. The production, put on by 'The Rubbish Shakespeare Company', was an hilarious, yet strangely educational, spoof of Shakespeare's famous tragedy, which had us all laughing hysterically as things went wrong, and strange accents and costumes added a very interesting modern take on the play. Following the production, our students took part in a drama workshop, which saw all of them taking on parts and acting out the play through its key moments. Even the shyest and most reluctant thespian took part

willingly and really enjoyed this activity, which was led by a well-renowned theatre director. After lunch, the final treat was to attend a university lecture on the topic of Hamlet in the media, where the lecturer explained the importance of 'cultural capital' and the power and currency of having knowledge of Shakespeare, as she exemplified various versions of Hamlet, including a Bollywood version. The students all loved their day out and returned to their Shakespeare studies in school with a new vigour.



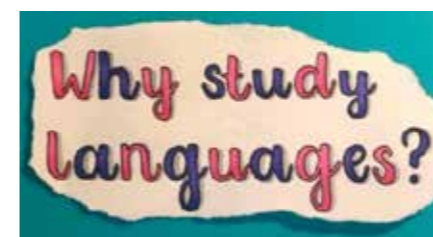
Why Not Languages?

Event at Cambridge University

Nine Year 10 students attended an interactive 'Why not Languages?' day to promote the studying of languages at A Level and beyond at the Department of Modern and Medieval Languages in Cambridge University on Tuesday 20th June. It was a very interesting and stimulating day, with talks on the compelling reasons for language learning and taster sessions in translations and cultural identity. There was also the chance to experience the ab initio languages provided by the university in Japanese, Italian, Russian and Arabic. Our lucky students tried Italian and walked

away being able to have a short conversation in a language that they only tried for 45 minutes – very impressive by all! Six current undergraduates of the department were there to answer any questions on university life and the opportunities provided to them having studied a language. Most interesting were the

different countries they had all studied in and the types of jobs and culture they had experienced while abroad. The day gave the students a greater insight into the opportunities provided by studying languages at A level, with 3 showing interest in taking it up when they leave Cornelius.





‘Pre-loved’ UNIFORM



At Cornelius Vermuyden School, we have a large amount of pre-loved school uniform that has been kindly donated by parents and our former students. We also have a range of coats available.

For any queries on pre-loved uniform, donating pre-loved uniform or to arrange to see what we have on offer, please contact any of the following people:

Mrs Gayda (Mon-Wed only)
Miss MacGregor (Mon & Fri only)
Mrs Gladwin
Mrs Wood
Mrs Brady
Mr Sweeny

jgayda@corneliusvermuyden.com
imacgregor@corneliusvermuyden.com
hgladwin@corneliusvermuyden.com
swood@corneliusvermuyden.com
kbrady@corneliusvermuyden.com
msweeny@corneliusvermuyden.com

PLEASE DONATE PRE-LOVED UNIFORM



The University of Essex Year 10 Human Rights Project

As part of the preparation towards this year’s Year 10 Summer Sleepover at the University of Essex, Colchester Campus, The University of Essex Outreach has organised a 3 session programme themed “The Human Rights Project” for 46 Year 10 students.

The project’s aim is to educate the students on the fundamental human rights of every individual irrespective of race, sex, religious background, sexual orientation etc.

Human rights are the fundamental rights and freedoms that belong to every single one of us, anywhere in the world. Human rights apply no matter where you are from, what you believe in, or how you choose to live your life.

Human rights can never be taken away, but they can sometimes be restricted – for example if a person breaks the law, or in the interests of national security. These rights and freedoms are based on values like dignity, fairness, equality, respect and independence. But human rights are not just abstract concepts – they are defined and protected by law.

The basic human rights have

some key qualities, agreed by the international community.

They must be recognised as:

- Universal: they belong to every single person
- Inalienable: they cannot be taken away from us
- Indivisible and interdependent: governments should not be able to pick and choose which rights are respected. Source (Amnesty International, UK).

Benefits of the Human Rights Project.

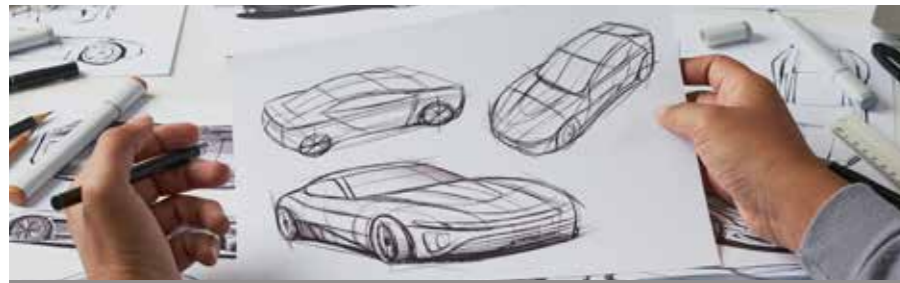
- Studying human rights develops the skills and confidence to advocate for individual and community rights, social justice

and social change.

It is worth mentioning that The University of Essex is ranked 17th for promoting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions (THE Impact Rankings 2023). This collaboration between the University of Essex and The Cornelius Vermuyden School will strengthen our students to stand-up for the rights of all.

Mr M Agor
Lead Practitioner Science + CEIAG Coordinator.





Automotive Engineer

Automotive engineers design, test and build cars and motorbikes.

What you will do

You might work in design, development or production on:

- body, chassis and engine systems
- electrical and electronic instrumentation and control systems
- thermodynamics, aerodynamics and fluid mechanics
- fuel technology and emissions

You could:

- turn design ideas into blueprints
- research the safety, cost and environmental impact of designs
- move designs into development by building prototypes
- test products using computer simulations and physical models
- assess components' strengths, weaknesses, performance and safety
- plan the production run
- redesign machine tools, equipment and processes to make new parts
- monitor costs and production schedules
- oversee quality control

Average salary ranging from – £20,000 to £45,000

Typical working hours – 39 to 41 a week

Future employment – It is predicted there will be 3.3% more Automotive Engineer jobs in 2027

Routes into the industry

University - You could do a foundation degree, higher national diploma or degree, before joining a company graduate training scheme. Relevant subjects include: mechanical engineering, electrical or electronic engineering, design engineering, manufacturing engineering or automotive engineering. You will usually need at least 1 A level or equivalent for a foundation degree and between 1 & 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a higher national diploma or degree.

Apprenticeship - You could do a degree apprenticeship and combine learning in the workplace with doing an engineering degree at an approved university. Relevant degree apprenticeships include: manufacturing engineer or product design and development engineer. You'll usually need 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 and A levels, or equivalent, for a degree apprenticeship.

Beauty Therapist

Beauty therapists provide face and body treatments to help people look and feel better.

What you will do

In your day-to-day tasks you may:

- give a facial by cleansing, massaging and toning a client's skin
- do a makeover by applying and advising on make-up
- shape eyebrows and colour eyelashes
- give a manicure, pedicure or other nail treatment like extensions and nail art
- remove unwanted facial and body hair
- do non-surgical skin improvement treatments
- offer spray tanning

You could work in a salon, at a health spa, on a cruise ship, in a hotel or from home.

Average salary ranging from – £16,000 to £25,000

Typical working hours – 37 to 40 a week

Future employment – It is predicted there will be 0.8% less

Beauty Therapist jobs in 2027

Routes into the industry

College - You could study for a Level 2 or 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy or a T Level in Hair, Beauty and Aesthetics. You'll usually need: 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3, or equivalent, for a level 2 course. 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, or equivalent, for a level 3 course. 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, or equivalent, including English and maths for a T level.

Apprenticeship - You can do an intermediate or advanced beauty therapist apprenticeship. These typically take between 15 and 18 months to complete as a mix of workplace learning and off-the-job study. You'll usually need some GCSEs, usually including English and maths, or equivalent, for an intermediate apprenticeship. 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship.



Equalities Officer

Equalities officers make sure people are treated equally in an organisation by promoting positive practices and attitudes.

What you will do

In this role you could:

- identify equality issues
- introduce new policies and review existing practices
- work with employers to help them develop a diverse workforce
- raise awareness in organisations, schools and the community
- support community projects and groups
- promote equality law and events, like International Women's Week
- make sure adverts and promotions do not discriminate
- prepare and deliver training, presentations and workshops

Average salary ranging from – £22,000 to £45,000

Typical working hours – 38 to 40 a week

Future employment – It is predicted there will be 3.9% more Equalities' officer jobs in 2027

Routes into the industry

University - You could do a degree in a relevant subject, such as law, psychology, sociology, community/youth studies or human resources. You'll usually need 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree.

Apprenticeship - You could do an advanced apprenticeship in HR support to help you get started in this role. This typically takes about 18 months to complete, and is a mix of learning in the workplace and the classroom. You'll usually need 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4, or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship.

College - You could get an introduction to this type of work from a relevant college course, like a Level 2 Certificate in Equality and Diversity. You'll usually need 2 or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3, or equivalent, for a level 2 course.



Gangline

Gangs Prevention Assembly

On Thursday 6th July, students in Years 7, 8 and 9 attended a 'Gangline' assembly. This was a hard-hitting presentation that taught our young people about local gangs, the make-up of a gang member, female sexual exploitation, grooming and initiation into gangs, and the dangers of drugs.

As a school, we are always looking to build resilience in our students and raise awareness around the dangers of gang culture. This assembly provided students with a greater

understanding of the myths surrounding gang culture, while also giving students a greater understanding of the nature of peer groups which are characterised by violence. All students were shown the real life impacts of gangs in their communities and even had the fantastic opportunity to ask questions of Sheldon Thomas an ex-gang leader. We look forward to welcoming them back in September when they will present to our new cohort of Year 7 students.



Mental Health Awareness week

15th - 21st May

During the week, Cornelius students and staff were invited to access a variety of activities to help spread awareness for mental health. This year's theme was 'anxiety' and all students received an assembly on different types of anxiety and how best to recognise and deal with it.

Staff participated in an anxiety reducing climbing session, although for some this took them completely out of their comfort zone. This was a great session to allow all staff to attend and have a go on the wall. It was fun, exciting and filled with laughter. What a great way to destress and relax.

Friday 19th May staff and students took part in a national wear something green day. This allowed us all to spread the awareness of mental health and anxiety, and stand with solidarity with all who may be experiencing poor mental health. Thank you to all staff, parents and students who took part in the event this week.



House Quiz Rankings

Every week we have a quiz on a variety of subjects, and now we will see which house got the most winners out of all the quizzes



1ST PLACE
Hera



2ND PLACE
Zeus



3RD PLACE
Darwin



House Name Boards

There are new name boards meant to represent the Houses. Each board has a unique design based on the name of the house. These House Boards will be used for the first time on sports day so keep an eye out.



The achievement point system is changing to enable house points to give students access to some fantastic prizes. This restructuring will include a range of products and vouchers, culminating in the students with the most points being able to go on an end of year excursion to an amusement park funded by the school.

We hope all students will stay safe over the Summer and enjoy a very deserved break, and come back refreshed, looking for as many achievement points as possible in the new academic year.

Summer Trivia:

- The first day of Summer is the Summer solstice, which has the most daylight and the shortest night.
- Crickets make different chirping noises depending on the temperature. They chirp faster when it's hotter.
- Plants can angle their leaves away from the sun to stay cool.
- There is a world record for the longest time barbecuing. It lasted 80 hours!

Summer Word Search

SUMMER	G A R D E N Y S M B M T O L S
SUNSHINE	N I A R M E L E S E E R W O U
SWIM	U C I N C I P E A S I A M S N
BOAT	L M L I N O I T A C A V R P S
CAMP	P O P S I C L E Q L D E K I H
HIKE	U I P E C A M P I O O L F C I
GARDEN	Y T N S R E T L M D N T R E N
PLAY	P W N S O E P A T G N E D X E
BEACH	A U G R I A D Y B O A Y A T E
JULY	R L J U L Y G R S A S O U P A
AUGUST	K E F G L C E A T H I R G A S
PARK	B A L Y P A E N O C R E U R D
PICNIC	S H O R T S O O H A E H S H R
POPSICLE	U Y P E M N O S A E S S T D E
ICE CREAM	C H E T A M C L Y B G M R E S
SHORTS	X L A O V Z R C O J B R I N S
DRESS	F O S E M A E R C E C I O W L
TRAVEL	B L O S S U M M E R W B M O S
VACATION	
SEASON	

SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Mike Sweeny
Assistant
Headteacher
Designated
Safeguarding Lead



Karen Brady
DDSL



Ian Hockey
Headteacher
DDSL



Denice Halpin
Deputy
Headteacher
DDSL



Jonathan Sands
Deputy
Headteacher
DDSL



Nadia Ounzain
Deputy
Headteacher
DDSL



Jonathan Hibben
Assistant
Headteacher
DDSL



Maria Sully
Assistant
Headteacher
DDSL



Jayme Goodger
Mental Health Lead
DDSL



Lauren Mayhew
DDSL



Graham Pritchard
DDSL

**THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM
CAN BE RECOGNISED
BY THOSE WEARING A
YELLOW LANYARD**

USEFUL NUMBERS:

Children & Family hub

Southend:

Normal telephone enquires and referrals
01702 215 007

Essex:

Normal telephone enquires and referrals
0345 603 7627

Thurrock:

Normal telephone enquires and referrals
01375 652802

Where there are concerns about the immediate welfare or safety of a child/young person during out of hours, call 0345 606 1212

OUT OF HOURS

Southend and **Essex:**

5.30pm-9.00am Mon-Thurs, 4.30pm-9.00am Fri
0345 606 1212

Thurrock:

5.30pm-9.00am Mon-Thurs, 4.30pm-9.00am
0345 606 1212

OTHER SERVICES

NHS Direct (non-emergency) 111

Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre
(CEOP) 0870 000 3344

NSPCC National Child Protection Helpline
0808 800 5000

Police 101



Advice...Report...Help...