

## Dates for the Diary

### Year 8 AP2 Assessments

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024

### Parent Forum Meeting

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - 3.30pm-4.30pm

### Year 9 Options Evening - Parent Consultation

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - 4pm-5.30pm

Venue: Basildon Upper Academy

### Half Term

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

### Year 9 AP2 Assessments

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024

## Student Value of the Term

# CLIMATE CHANGE IS REAL

## House Points - Week Ending 3<sup>rd</sup> May



37,607  
HAWKING



36,852  
ALI



32,248  
SEACOLE



28,384  
AUSTEN

## Leadership Message

The Lower academy provides our students with a variety of support initiatives within our Wellbeing Centre. This includes the West Ham United Foundation Mentoring Programme, run in partnership with 'Premier League Inspires'.

The Premier League Inspires programme works with the West Ham United Foundation to provide 1-1 mentoring, activities and workshops. Run by Madison Hooper, West Ham United Foundation Senior Education Officer, the scheme uses resources designed to promote physical activity, teamwork, and social skills. The overall goal is to support young people in reaching their full potential both on and off the field.

Recently, our students' endeavours with the foundation gained recognition on BBC's Match of the Day. In line with their healthy living initiative, students were given the unique opportunity to engage with West Ham Players, and their Executive Performance Chef, to gain valuable insights into the importance of nutrition and healthy lifestyle choices.

We look forward to keeping you updated on the continual progress and success stories of students throughout the year.

**T.Smith**

**Assistant Headteacher & SENCO**



Channels of communication are clear on an individual and collective level. The weekly newsletter is carefully crafted to keep parents informed and updated and the school website, which has recently been redesigned, is a well organised rich source of key information for parents.



Leading Parent  
Partnership Award

2023-2026

## Year 7 Football Team Win District Plate Final

Congratulations to our Year 7 Boys Team for winning the District Plate Final. The boys arrived with the right attitude and wanted to go out and win the final, however, the first half wasn't what we had hoped. We hit the post, and hit 2 sitters straight at the keeper before James Hornsby took a 1-0 lead.

The boys showed great teamwork by encouraging each other, Jeremiah hit the back of the net making scores level. James Hornsby pushed on and scored a 2<sup>nd</sup>, leaving the boys fighting for everything. They showed great resilience and myself and Coach Colin were frustrated as we knew the boys deserved to win. In the final seconds of the game TJ was taken down just outside the box, he stepped up with confidence for the free kick and scored the equaliser. The final whistle then went.....oh yes you guessed it PENALTIES were on the way!



Coach Colin selected TJ, Jeremiah and Jackson to take penalties, all of which successfully scored. This crowned us WINNERS of the Year 7 District Plate Final 23/24.

MOTM was awarded to Archie.P for his superb saves throughout the game, but especially during the penalty shootout, rendering James Hornsby goalless in all 3 penalty opportunities.

Well done to boys for their team spirit, resilience, work ethic and overall conduct. Every player was amazing.

**Match Report: L.Gray - Sporting Excellence Leader KS3**

## Vinnie Represents School at London Stadium

Year 8 student Vinnie was recently selected by the West Ham Foundation to form part of a guard of honour before the start of a Premier League match between West Ham United and Liverpool F.C.

The guard of honour took place on the London Stadium pitch just before kick-off, to an audience of more than 60,000 football supporters. Vinnie, displaying a large flag during the event, proudly represented the academies alongside representatives from other schools and organisations involved with the West Ham Foundation 'Premier Leagues Inspires' programme.

After the guard of honour, and a lap around the pitch, Vinnie took to his complimentary seat to enjoy the match and the hospitality provided by the West Ham Foundation staff.

"It was the best experience and so exciting to be on the pitch watching all the players training before the game. The match was really good too and I had great seats."Vinnie.R





## Eco Committee Achieves Woodland Trust Silver Award

Congratulations to our Eco Committee who have received the Woodland Trust's Green Tree School, Silver Award, on behalf of the Lower Academy.

This prestigious award comes just a few months since the school received the bronze accreditation and, is a testament to the commitment that our students have shown to enhancing the school's natural environment.

To achieve the award, our committee members have launched campaigns to promote the benefits of recycling and lower energy usage within the school. They have also continued their exciting project to bring the quad area to life by planting wildflowers.

We look forward to following the progress of our dedicated group as they work towards achieving the Gold Award.

"I was very surprised when Miss told us we had received the Silver Award. I was very happy because we have all worked hard to achieve this. This has been a fun project to be part of. THINK GREEN." Kaci.C – Year 8

"I felt so happy that I got to hold the Silver Award. I am very excited to be working on the Gold Award and hopefully we can achieve this before the summer holidays." Gracie-Mae – Year 8

"Since I joined the Eco Committee I've felt that I'm committed. It helps me understand the value of nature and our planet." Luke.Z – Year 7



## Uniform Exchange Scheme

If you have uniform that your child has outgrown, please bring it in and see if there is something in the exchange shop that has been donated that you can simply swap your item for. We are still gratefully receiving donations of shirts, trousers and PE kits that are in pre-loved condition and these can be donated via the reception office on either site.

Please remember, the Uniform Exchange shop is located at the Lower Academy, is open from 8am – 3:30pm Monday – Friday and is accessible via the school office.



## SEND Department Coffee Afternoons Every Wednesday 3pm - 4pm

We are delighted to offer our parents/carers the opportunity to meet with members of our SEND Department to discuss their child's progress. Coffee afternoons are held at the Lower Academy from 3pm – 4pm every Wednesday.

To book an appointment please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for General Enquiries.



## Home Learning

If you have any queries regarding home learning, including access issues or, to celebrate the work your child has completed at home, please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Home Learning/Homework.

## Safeguarding

Safeguarding our students is at the forefront of everything we do. Parents and carers can access information via the following link [www.escb.co.uk](http://www.escb.co.uk) which offers guidance and signposts to resources on various safeguarding issues. Please contact our safeguarding officers if you have any concerns about your own child or another student at the Academies.

[www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding](http://www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/safeguarding)

## Young Minds

[Young Minds](#) is the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. Just as people's bodies can become unwell, people's minds can become unwell too.

Young Minds offer information to young people and children about mental health and emotional wellbeing. If you need to talk, they can let you know about organisations that listen, plus they offer online support and info.

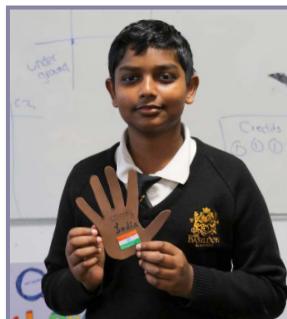
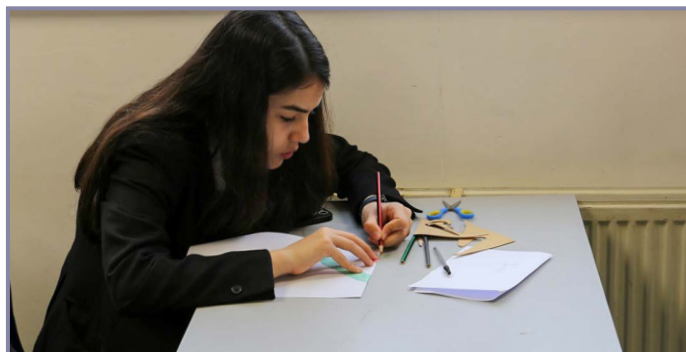
# YOUNG MINDS

## EAL Wreath

EAL students have been working on a wreath to display in the Lower Academy. The wreath represents the home countries of our students and shows the diversity of our school community. Students were proud to create handprints to represent their home countries and are encouraged to be proud of their culture.

"I liked showing my country because it is beautiful, and I love it." Minoo.M – Year 7

"I really enjoyed being able to visually represent my country to the school." Peter.T – Year 9





## Absence Procedures

To report a student absence please visit the [Contact Us](#) page via the Basildon Lower Academy website and select the option for Attendance.

- Parents/carers must contact the school by 8.30am each day their child is absent.
- If no reason has been received for a child's absence, the Academy will initiate first day calling.
- Parents/carers must provide medical evidence to support all absences due to illness or medical appointments.
- Wherever possible parents/carers should make appointments outside of school hours but if this is unavoidable students should attend school before and after the appointment.
- If no appropriate medical evidence is provided then the Academies cannot authorise an absence. (ie. medical appointment card, prescription, doctor's letter.)

For further information and guidance regarding attendance and absence please visit our website:  
[www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance](http://www.basildonloweracademy.org.uk/attendance)



**Did you know?** **90%** of young people with attendance **BELOW** **85%** fail to get good grades.

**MISSING 1 DAY A WEEK**



**LOSING ONE YEAR OF SCHOOL LIFE.**

### Good attendance means:

Being in school at least **97%** of the time, that's at least **184** days a year.

**Target 97%+**

**175**  
days are **NOT**  
spent in school  
each year.\*

\* Plenty of time for shopping,  
holidays & appointments.

**143**

Days of  
education

**75%**

47 days absent

**152**

Days of  
education

**80%**

38 days absent

**162**

Days of  
education

**85%**

28 days absent

**171**

Days of  
education

**90%**

19 days absent

**184**

Days of  
education

**97%**

6 days absent

**190**

Days of  
education

**100%**

0 days absent

#### **SERIOUSLY WORRIED**

Very poor attendance has a serious  
impact & reduces life chances.

#### **VERY CONCERNED**

Poor attendance gives  
less chance of success.

#### **WELL DONE**

Good attendance gives the  
best chance of success.

# THE BASILDON ACADEMIES WORD OF THE DAY

7<sup>th</sup> May - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
Sun Awareness Week

Tuesday: (World Asthma Day)	<b>Fruitarian:</b> a person whose diet consists chiefly of fruit. <b>mkpūrū osisi in Igbo</b>
Wednesday:	<b>Herbivorous:</b> feeding on plants only. <b>സസ്യഭുക്കുകൾ in Malayalam</b>
Thursday:	<b>Staples:</b> essential, fundamental. <b>de bază in Romanian</b>
Friday:	<b>Perishables:</b> subject to decay or ruin. <b>Kvarljivi in Bosnian</b>

## Job of the Week: VFX Artist

### What does a VFX Artist do?

Depending on the project, you could be working in 2D or 3D design to create anything from mythological creatures, to dystopian landscapes, to entire planets or solar systems.

Though your day-to-day duties might change, you'll be:

creating and designing concepts and special effects

creating high quality visuals to a budget and deadline

using cutting edge software and technology to create the most effective images

working from a brief, collaborating with supervisors, producers, directors, and other artists to achieve the best possible results

### Labour Market Information

UK jobs: 70,300

Essex Jobs: 1,573

Growth: +.2%

Top 5 LEAs: Hackney (1,855), Surrey (1,830), Hertfordshire (1,827), Kent (1,733), Essex (1,573)

### Let's Talk Money

UK annual median: £33,274

### What Qualifications do you need to do this job?

While you can become a visual effects artist without a degree, it's advisable that you have a degree as the current market is flooded with graduates who are more likely to be chosen from a pool of candidates.

Helpful subjects to study include fine art, graphic design, film and photography, animation, or visual effects. Try to choose a course with lots of practical elements to help you build your skills.

You could enter the industry without a degree but be prepared to start as a runner and work your way up, or to be asked to complete qualifications as you work.

The most important entry requirement is a portfolio or showreel. This can be built from work you have completed while studying, or in your own time. It should show a range of skills, but should focus on quality over quantity, and must be available to view digitally.

## Student Nurse Drop In

If students are worried about their health, would like a confidential chat or would just like to find out more about how our school nurse can help them, the nurse can be found:

Every Tuesday & Thursday Breaktime

Location:

The Wellbeing Centre



Follow The Basildon Lower Academy on our social media channels





# WHAT IS ESSEX ACTIVATE?

Essex ActivAte is the name for the Holiday Activity and Food programme across Essex, run by Active Essex, Essex County Council and Thurrock Council, on behalf of the Department for Education.

## Who is the programme for?

Clubs are suitable for children aged 4-16 years old who are eligible for benefits based free school meals or from 'low income' working families who benefit from this extra support. Some clubs may offer paid spaces that run alongside Essex ActivAte, however these can be limited.

## What do the clubs offer?

Essex ActivAte clubs offer mainstream primary and secondary provision across the county, also dedicated mental wellbeing and SEND clubs. Each club delivers a variety of physical and enrichment activities, fun food education and a nutritious meal. Family support is also available alongside the programme.

## How can I book my child onto a club?

To book onto a club during February, May/June or October half term, head over to the Essex ActivAte booking page on our website, then select the area you live in or the category you require and follow the steps.

To book onto a club during the easter, summer or winter holidays, use the link on your WONDE e-Voucher to find a club and book on, or contact a club directly.

## What is considered 'low income'?

We understand that all families circumstances are different, therefore if you are in employment or on an income which means you are unable to attend a holiday club without our support – you can book on.








# HALF-TERM & HOLIDAYS EXPLAINED...





## EASTER, SUMMER & WINTER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

-  The HAF programme runs in the easter, summer and winter holidays and is funded by the Department for Education. This is aimed solely at school children who receive benefits based free school meals during term time.
-  Limited spaces are available for low income working families and other vulnerable groups who would otherwise not be able to afford holiday clubs. You can book onto our programme self-certifying.
-  WONDE e-Voucher codes are sent by schools to all families eligible for benefits based free school meals. This code allows you to book onto local clubs and verify you are eligible for our programme.



## SPRING & AUTUMN HALF TERMS

-  Funded by Essex County Council, Essex ActivAte run clubs during February, May/June and October half term for children on benefit based free school meals or from 'low income' working families.
-  The half term programme is funded to provide spaces to those areas most in need across Essex.



-  You will not receive a WONDE e-Voucher code to book onto our clubs during half term.

You will need to book your child/ren onto a club through the Essex ActivAte website – simply find what clubs are available in your area then book onto a club using the link provided or by contacting the club directly.

SCAN THE QR CODE TO FIND OUT MORE!





# BOOK ONTO A HALF TERM ACTIVITY CLUB WITH ESSEX ACTIVATE!

Children and young people are invited to book onto fun-filled half term holiday clubs and enjoy free activities run by locally trusted club organisations across Essex, brought to you by Active Essex on behalf of Essex County Council!

## IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Essex ActivAte offer free, club spaces to primary and secondary school aged children who are eligible or receive pupil premium, benefit based free school meals or income-related benefits, also children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation. Clubs may offer discretionary paid places and paid for places, so there is something for everyone at an Essex ActivAte club!

## WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will run in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring and Uttlesford! Due to half term programmes being solely funded by Essex County Council, unfortunately there will not be any clubs running in Thurrock.

## WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs offer different engaging activities such as sports and games, crafts, colouring, dance, baking and more! They also provide nutritious meals and snacks, as well as food education, helping to engage young people and support parents during the half term holidays. Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs will also be available to book onto, offering further support for children.

## HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?

You will not receive or book on with your HolidayActivities voucher code for half term holiday clubs. To book onto a local club, head over to the Essex ActivAte website, find the area that you live in and book on with the link, email or contact number provided by the club organisation directly.

[Find out more about May half term holiday clubs and book on here.](#)

