

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Samuel Starling as Head Boy and Bianca Biltac as Head Girl. We also congratulate all those appointed to the Senior X and to Senior Prefect and

Mentor roles and look forward to seeing their future contributions. A full list of those appointed, alongside their roles will be published in our May edition of The Eagle.

The Easter holiday was a busy time for our Year 11 students, with many attending revision workshops in a variety of subjects. I would like to thank those teachers who gave up their time in the holiday to run these. In addition, a party of Gilberdians also took to the mountain slopes of Austria for a week of skiing, a full report on which can be found later in this newsletter.

As always, a lot has been happening in and beyond the classroom at The Gilberd School since the last edition of The Eagle, and we hope you enjoying reading about these below.

Colchester Schools' Prom

Once again, our Orchestra and Advanced Vocal Group were invited to perform at the Colchester Schools' Prom on Friday 28th March. We opened the whole event with The Gilberd Orchestra performing an excellent rendition of "Shallow" from "A Star is Born". The Advanced Vocals dazzled with Mrs Lewis's arrangements of "Dreams" by Fleetwood Mac, followed by "I'm Still Standing" by Elton John. Our musicians relished the opportunity to work with a large number of students from other Colchester schools for the finale which this year was "Defying Gravity" from "Wicked". Mrs V Chamberlain Subject Leader of Music

Pi Day took place on 14th March, and was celebrated across the Mathematics Department with various activities taking place. These included the Year 7 vs Year 8 Jigsaw Challenge, the famous PI Dingbats Competition and our team of Mathematics teachers dressing as Pi Dingbats. There was a great buzz around the department on Friday, with students enjoying

A group of very brave teachers volunteered to take part in a fundraising "Dunk the Teacher" extravaganza, to raise funds for the Year 11 Summer Ball. Despite the chilly Spring weather, great fun was had by the participants and spectators; a total of over £800 was raised. Thank you to the staff involved who were such great sports and to the organisers who made this

WHO AM I?

WHO AM I?

WHO AM 1?

Pi Week

guessing who their teachers were.

"Dunk a Teacher"

such a great spectacle!

Year 11 London Transport Trip

Before Easter, a group of Year 11 Gilberdians enjoyed an adventurous day out in London. The objective of the trip was for students to use as many means of transport as they could fit into a school day. Students took in the sights of London whilst travelling by bus, cable car, boat, the tube, DLR and mainline train. A great time was had by all!

North East Essex Swimming Gala

We are extremely pleased to announce that on 20th March, a team of Gilberdians swam to victory at the North East Essex Swimming Gala. This is the second consecutive year that The Gilberd School has taken the place of overall winners in this gala. Well done! The individual year group positions are below:

Year 7 Boys - Winners Year 7 Girls - 2nd place Year 9 Girls - 2nd place Year 9 Boys - 3rd Place Year 10 Boys - 3rd place

expedition.

exercises.

The picturesque

perfect backdrop

accommodation.

Nemo Maths Challenge

against

who all took part.

Six Year 7 Gilberdians competed in the North Essex Mathematical Olympiad, where they showcased their mathematical skills

Colchester and secured a very pleasing 3rd place. Well done to Zikra Ahmed, Penny

Sunilkumar, Joseph Urik and Daniel Yatluk

Duckworth, Cosimo Hayes,

Year 9 Song Writing Workshop

the session.

been possible.

Careers and Alumni

look forward to hearing from you.

Co-curricular Clubs & Societies

Assessment Weeks Year 8 - 28th April to 2nd May

Year 9 - 12th to 23rd May

Year 11 Exams

French Oral Exams - 28th to 30th April

Written Exams commence - Thursday 8th May

Year 10 Parents' Evening Wednesday 30th April (X-Pop) Wednesday 7th May (Y-Pop)

A group of Year 9 students participated in a songwriting workshop with professional musicians and songwriter Zamini Fitri. They developed skills in lyric writing as well as putting chords and melody together and performed some excellent songs at the end of

Easter Ski Trip to Obertauern, Austria

spectacular views of the Austrian countryside.

experience the amazing slopes and views of Obertauern.

Equally impressive was the skiing progress made as the week unfolded.

highlights of the day's escapades were shared and awards given.

Mrs V Chamberlain **Subject Leader Music**

42 Gilberdians from Years 8 to 10 spent the first week of the Easter holidays in the beautiful ski resort of Obertauern. After a long coach and ferry journey, students arrived resplendent in their red ski trip hoodies at our villa in the Mautendorf Valley, where we were blessed with

Students were split into groups according to their skiing ability and over the week got to

It was fantastic to watch the camaraderie, team work and fun experienced by the students.

Off the ski slopes, students enjoyed a range of evening activities: the villa's games room, our 'Gilberd Olympics', swimming, a pizza night, shopping, 'Bonkers Bingo' and even a highly entertaining 'dance-off'. In addition, fun was had at our daily evening briefings, where

Our Gilberdian skiers' behaviour, attitude and great humour were exemplary throughout the

Obertauern 2025 will be a week to remember for all those involved; I certainly will not forget

Thank you to all the staff involved in this fantastic week; without them it would not have

Join our CEIAG Community. Calling all Gilberd Alumni and employers to be part of our careers provision at The Gilberd School. Should you wish to be involved in events this academic year, working with our students and want to know more, please contact careers@gilberd.com. We

Dates for your diary

Year 10 GCSE Exam

RS Short Course - Wednesday 21st May

Year 8 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 21st May (X-Pop)

Wednesday 4th June (Y-Pop)

other schools from across

Assistant Curriculum Leader Maths

Mrs A Duthie

Year 9 DJ Workshop

simultaneously

with the decks.

Some of our Year 9 Musicians were fortunate to take part in a recent workshop with renowned DJ, Shy Cookie, producer to DJ Luck and MC Neat, as well as founder of The House and Garage Orchestra. Students learned a variety of skills such as keeping bar count while applying effects to two active tracks

enjoyable time learning how to be creative

and had a thoroughly

Mrs V Chamberlain **Subject Leader Music**

Ms R Litton

Assistant Headteacher

and establish cooking areas.

Bronze Award expedition in May.

Mr N Baldry

Mrs M Pleasance PE Department

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Award Training Day

surroundings

their

Duke of Edinburgh Coordinator

practical

Miss G Sumner

A group of our Year 9 students enjoyed a fantastic week of team building and life skills at the Maes-Y-Lade outdoor centre, just outside Hay on Wye. Students experienced a range of exciting activities: hill walking, paddle boarding, caving, tunnel walking, gorge walking, as well as problem solving games. In addition, their teamwork skills were shown through the good natured way in which they got involved in cooking, washing up and tidying up their

Mr N Baldry

ABL/ALT Ed Coordinator

On 29th March, a group of Year 9 students embarked on their practical training session for the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award

After receiving expert guidance from their leaders, the students put their new found navigation and compass skills to the test.

Highwoods Country Park provided the

Students also learned how to pitch tents

We look forward to seeing these students continue to grow and excel as they progress towards their Duke of Edinburgh

Maes-Y- Lade Outdoors Centre

for

ABL/ALT Ed Coordinator

Message from the Headteacher We hope you had an enjoyable Easter break. It has been a delight to welcome students back for the final term of this academic school year.

- Mr J Mitchell Headteacher

Mrs S Bush

WHO AM 1?

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WHO AM I?

Miss D Snape Year 11 Tutor Team

Lead Teacher of Mathematics