

Seize the day

EXCELLENCE. RESILIENCE. INCLUSION.

Headteacher: Mr Alexander Silk, MA , NPQH

15th May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. This week has been another busy and purposeful one across the school community, with students continuing to engage positively in lessons, enrichment activities and wider opportunities beyond the classroom. As we move further into the summer term, there remains a strong sense of focus and momentum across the school, particularly as examination season progresses and students begin preparing for the final stages of the academic year.

You will also receive a separate letter later today regarding the outcome of the industrial action discussions taking place this afternoon. I feel it is important to update parents directly once these conversations have concluded and a clearer position is established. In the meantime, I would like to thank parents and carers once again for the continued support, patience and encouragement you have shown the school during what has undoubtedly been a challenging and at times uncertain period. That partnership between home and school remains incredibly important and greatly appreciated.

Assembly next week

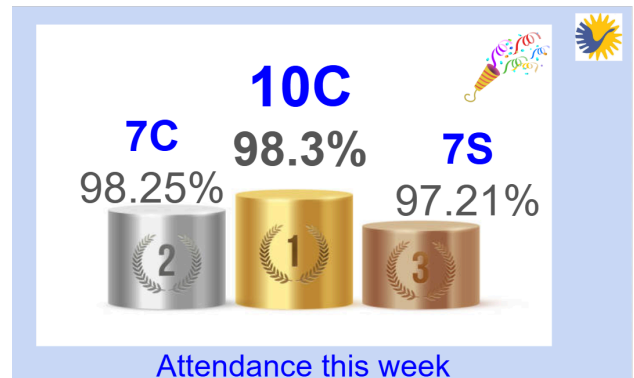
The assembly will be about United Nations Cultural Diversity Day, providing students with an opportunity to reflect on the importance of inclusion, mutual respect, and the richness that cultural diversity brings to both our school community and wider society.



Attendance Matters

Congratulations 10C and to Year 7 for having the highest attendance for the year to date!

Please remember that excellent attendance is expected throughout the summer term as the school remains fully open. Term time holidays and travel will not be authorised and will be referred to the Waltham Forest attendance team (BACME). Absences of students whose attendance has become Persistently Absent (less than 90%) will not be authorised without medical evidence being provided by a GP or hospital. 10 sessions (i.e. 5 school days) of unauthorised absence will be referred to our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) and BACME.



Punctuality - Late to School

Students must arrive via the playground gate in Connaught Road before 8.30am (line up begins at 8.25am)

Students who arrive after 8.30am (when the playground gates are closed) must enter via the main reception in Dyers Hall Road and register on the Inventory system.

From 1st June 2026 we will be amending our late systems:

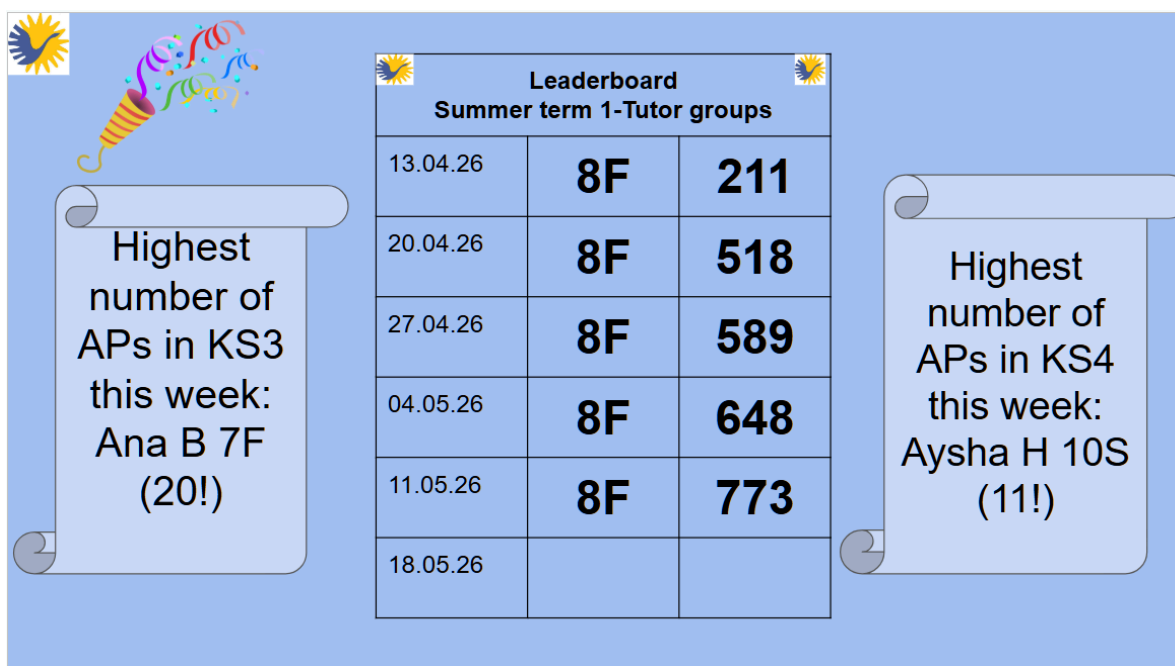
All students (Years 7-11) who arrive late to school (after 8.30am) will have a **same day 30 minute late detention** from 3.20 - 3.50 (Mon - Thurs)/2.20 - 2.50pm (Fri).

Parents/carers will be notified via Arbor.

Students who are **late 3 times in one week** will have a **60 minute SLT detention on Fri** (2.20 - 3.20pm)

Parents/Carers will be notified via Arbor.

Achievement Points



The graphic features a blue background with a sun icon in the top left and a party horn with streamers. A central table displays the 'Leaderboard Summer term 1-Tutor groups' with columns for dates, tutor groups, and achievement points. Two scroll-like callouts on either side highlight the highest number of achievement points for KS3 and KS4.

Leaderboard Summer term 1-Tutor groups		
13.04.26	8F	211
20.04.26	8F	518
27.04.26	8F	589
04.05.26	8F	648
11.05.26	8F	773
18.05.26		

Highest number of APs in KS3 this week: Ana B 7F (20!)

Highest number of APs in KS4 this week: Aysha H 10S (11!)

Connaught goes out

As we approach the end of the academic year our year group trips are fast approaching. As I have mentioned previously these are always a real highlight of the school calendar and we strongly encourage all students to take part and make lasting memories with their peers.

End of year trip details are as follows:

Year 7 and 8	Chessington World of Adventures (theme park and zoo)	London Walk - sightseeing walking tour
times	Leaving school at 8:00 am (You will be notified of the exact time of departure arrangements nearer the time). Return to school approximately 6:00pm	9:00 am meet in the school playground. Return to school approx. 3:00pm.
cost	£42 This cost includes coach travel and theme park/zoo entrance	no cost (free)
Information to note	£15 initial non-refundable deposit to be paid via Arbor (or pay in full). The remaining £27.00 to be paid via Arbor and may be paid in instalments. The final payment must be made by Friday 12th June 2026.	

Year 9 and 10	Thorpe Park (theme park)	London Walk - sightseeing walking tour
times	Leaving school at 8:30 am (You will be notified of the exact time of departure arrangements nearer the time). Return to school approximately 7:30pm	9:00 am meet in the school playground. Return to school approx. 3:00pm.
cost	£47 This cost includes coach travel and theme park entrance	no cost (free)
Information to note	£15 initial non-refundable deposit to be paid via Arbor (or pay in full). The remaining £32 to be paid via Arbor and may be made in instalments. The final payment must be made by Friday 12th June 2026.	

Year 10 Electronic Textiles project

This term the year 10 Textiles class has been learning about electronic Textiles.

They designed and made a light up pendant, using conductive thread and electronic components. They then had to sew the electronic circuit inside using conductive thread, and decorated the outside of the pendant using applique and embroidery techniques.

The project was very challenging on many levels but they have worked hard on it and below are some of the finished results from the following students:

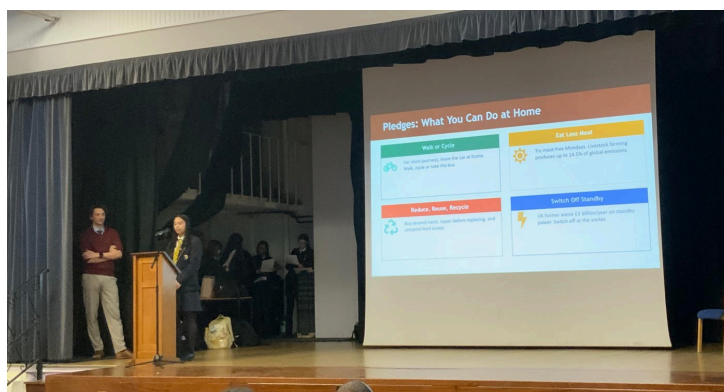
Tasnia Islam, Hadeeqa Khan, Setaish Sarabi, Ahlam Baluna, Marwa Shakeel, Aaliyah Rahman, Mohsinah Mohteshim and Maliha Rehman.



Earth day

Earth Day 2026 was celebrated across the school with a series of engaging presentations led by our fantastic Green Ambassadors. Speaking to both KS3 and KS4 students, the ambassadors highlighted the importance of protecting our environment and raising awareness about the challenges facing our planet today.

This year's Earth Day theme, *"Our Power, Our Planet"*, encouraged everyone to think about the power individuals and communities have to make positive environmental change. Throughout the presentations, students explored how everyday actions such as reducing waste, recycling, saving energy and making sustainable choices can have a significant impact on the future of the planet. As part of the assemblies, the Green Ambassadors encouraged all KS3 and KS4 students to reflect on their own environmental impact by writing down three commitments they would carry out to help reduce their carbon footprint. Students produced a range of thoughtful and practical ideas including walking more often, reducing single use



plastics and switching off electrical devices when not in use.

The Green Ambassadors confidently delivered presentations filled with facts, discussion points and practical ideas for students to take forward both in school and at home. They also challenged students to consider how small actions, when combined, can lead to meaningful global change. It was fantastic to see students across all year groups engaging thoughtfully with the message of Earth Day and showing enthusiasm for creating a more sustainable future. A huge well done to our Green Ambassadors for their hard work, leadership and commitment to raising environmental awareness within our school community.

Careers Section

Visit to Sky Studios

Earlier this week, we had the opportunity to visit the Sky Up Studios - an invitation via the Eze Foundation - which was to develop a News Report. We had decided on focusing on Girls and Mental Health - linked directly to National Mental Health Week. Below are two student responses from the trip.



Milan

I enjoyed visiting Sky Studios because we had the opportunity to take part in an engaging and enjoyable activity. I am grateful for the experience, as it introduced me to a career path that I am now considering for the future. Throughout the day, I felt relaxed and comfortable in the environment, which allowed me to confidently express my ideas and share my opinions. As the day went on, my confidence continued to grow, and I became more comfortable speaking up, contributing to discussions, and presenting my thoughts to others.

Eve

During the trip to Sky Studios, I had a lot of fun and really enjoyed learning how to use new technology while developing important skills such as teamwork and communication. I learned a great deal about what it is like to work as a presenter and discovered that there is a wide variety of careers within the broadcasting and media industry.

The experience helped me become more confident in using unfamiliar equipment and communicating with people I did not know very well. I also improved my ability to generate ideas and adapt quickly under pressure, especially when the theme of our video was changed shortly before we arrived at the studios. This challenged me to think creatively within a short time limit and work effectively as part of a team.

I am very grateful to have been given this opportunity because it allowed me to experience what it is like to work at Sky and see behind the scenes of how broadcasting and production operate. It was a unique and memorable experience that I truly appreciate, and I would highly recommend it to others.

Throughout the day, my confidence continued to grow as I became more comfortable trying new things and engaging with everything that was being demonstrated and discussed. Overall, I had an amazing experience, learned many new skills, and gained a better understanding of the different roles involved in news presenting and broadcasting. I took on the roles of editor and voice-over artist, both of which I had never previously considered, but I thoroughly enjoyed them. As a result of this experience, I may now consider pursuing one of these roles in the future

Extra-Curricular Provision

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before school	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET	Library Club 7:50-8:20 Library ET
	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET	Breakfast Club 7:40-8:20 Dining hall DIA/PET
Lunch time	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office	Year 8-11 Ted Team SIL HT Office
	LEGO Club RIC Room 20	Homework Club NA Room 20	Homework Club DL Room 20	Homework Club RIC Room 20	Year 11 Biology Clinic AMR Mobile
	Key Stage 4 Art and Photography Club ELB Room 9	Key Stage 3 Reading Club RAH Room 36	Key Stage 4 Art Club HCO Room 17	Key Stage 3 Computing and Coding Club ALK Room 33	11x/Ma6 Maths Intervention RGN Room 3
	Year 10 Drama Rehearsals MAL Drama Studio	Year 7 Cooking Club WAL Room H1	Year 7 Nuture Club ELK Room 42	11x/Ma3 Maths Intervention PET Room 10	Year 10 Rollerskating Club DIA/GAG Gym
		Year 11 Geography Intervention DES Room 7	Year 11 Sociology Intervention KAD Room 5	Badminton Club GAG Gym Week B	Crochet Club HUS Room 17
		Year 11 English Literature Revision CAR Room 34	Textiles Club RAN Room H2	Year 9 Poetry Club BUR Room 35	Year 8 Connections Club ALI Room 38
		Year 11 History Intervention KLE Room 6	Green Ambassadors DES Room 7 Week A Only	Year 11 French Intervention FER Room 41	Drama Club MAL Hall
		Year 8 Attend Club ALI Room 38	Duke Of Edinburgh Support DES Room 7 Week B Only	Year 11 Chemistry Clinic AMR Mobile Week A Only	
		Drama Club MAL Hall	History Film Club KLE Room 6	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Room 8	
		Key Stage 3 Futsal Club KAD/GAG Gym	11x/Ma2 Maths Intervention ADO Room 4 Week B		

			Only		
		11x/Ma5 Maths Intervention LAB Room 37	Dodgeball Club GAG Gym Week B		
			Year 7-10 Let's Celebrate KHL Room 39		
			Year 9 Teen Tech Awards KHN Library		
			Key Stage 3 Collage Club ELB Room 9		
			GCSE Art Coursework Catch Up Club HOC Room 17		
After school	11x/Ma4 Maths Intervention AUL Room 1	Year 10 Maths Action Tutoring IN Room 4	Year 10 English Action Tutoring CAR Room 4	Year 11 Textiles coursework Club RAN Room H2	Year 11 Physics and Chemistry Intervention MUJ Lab 3
	Key Stage 4 Art and Photography Club ELB Room 9	Year 9 and 10 Debate Club KHN Library			11x/Sc3 Science Intervention Lab 4 IQB Week B
	Year 10 Drama Rehearsals MAL Drama Studio	Leyton Orient Football Club GAG Gym			
	Year 11 Spanish Intervention EMA Room 40	Year 11 Drama Intervention MAL Room 8			

Wishing you a great weekend,



Mr. Silk
Headteacher