

EAGLE

Engage, Endeavour, Excel

Message from the Headteacher

February has been a typically busy month in the school calendar. A number of trips and activities have taken place since the last edition and we hope you enjoy reading about these below.

The school show this year, The Hunchback of Notre Dame, concluded its five evening run at the end of last half term. All who saw the show agreed that it was a resounding success with performances that rivalled any professional theatre. We have been inundated with messages of appreciation for the work of our Performing Arts Faculty. The show was also watched by representatives from The National Theatre Awards and we are delighted to have been nominated in six categories. We look forward with eager anticipation to next year's production. Finally, His Majesty's Inspectors (Ofsted) carried out an inspection of the school in February and

we expect the report imminently. Thank you to those parents who supported the process via Parentview feedback. Students were a credit to the school throughout the process.

On 21st January, eight Gilberdians attended

Mr J Mitchell Headteacher

Dora Love Prize Launch 2025



Castle. The Dora Love Prize is an annual event where secondary schools produce projects on the topic of the Holocaust, other genocides and discrimination, and their prevention. This year's theme is "80 years after the liberation of the camps: time to stand up against a renewed wave of hate and exclusion." historians heard a talk from Professor Rainer Schulze and attended a range of workshops. They also listened to people share their experiences of discrimination, including a Holocaust survivor, Maurice Blik, who read an extract from his autobiography. Students left the event with many interesting, sometimes shocking facts, and a sense of their importance in preventing prejudice discrimination. Eliza Vernitski Year 10

the launch of the Dora Love Prize at Colchester



Students learned a variety of musical pieces which culminated in a performance in front of an audience of parents, staff and members of the Combined Cadet Force. We are immensely grateful to the British Army

their time, expertise and

On 20th January, the British Army Band based in Colchester, held a workshop with some of our musicians from Years 7—11.



inspiration for our students. A rewarding experience was enjoyed by all. Mrs V Chamberlain Subject Leader of Music



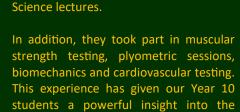
Mrs P Slater **English Department**

We were delighted to take a group of Year 11 English students to see a production of An Inspector Calls, one of their GCSE Literature texts, at the Theatre Royal in Norwich. As always, our students were impeccably behaved and enjoyed this interpretation of the play.

ever seen in one day! The university lecturers and students provided our Gilberdians with an

session

visited the University of Essex Human Performance Unit. We were the largest cohort of visitors the department has



benefits of Sports Science and how the 1% really makes the difference in elite

Mr A Hursey

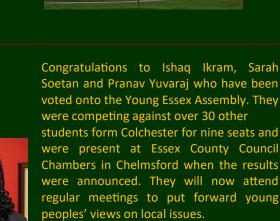
interesting taster

sport.

Assistant Curriculum Leader PE **Kew Gardens Trip** On 23rd, 24th and 31st January, Year 9 students visited Kew Gardens, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The famous glasshouses house plant species from

around the world. The oldest potted plant can be found at Kew Gardens having arrived in 1775; it is still thriving! Students experienced the humid conditions of a tropical rainforest in the Palm House and a vast variety of plants collected from all continents around the world. Endangered plants, an important aspect of Kew

Garden's work, were also on show. The tree top walkway was another popular attraction for those students who didn't mind heights. Once again, our Gilberdians were a credit to the school. Mrs J Clarke **Lead Teacher of Humanities**



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Mrs A Duthie

Mrs J Clarke

Lead Teacher of Humanities

Mathematics Nemo Competition Congratulations to our mathematicians from Year 9 who took part in the North Essex Mathematical Olympiad at Thomas Lord Audley School. One team were awarded second place overall, a brilliant achievement! Well done to William Oliver, Shayaan Jalib, Ethan Hunter, Jacob Wiekamp, Madison Gibson, Chloe O'Donoghue and Eloise Parmessur who took part. **Assistant Curriculum Leader of Mathematics**

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,

Co-curricular Clubs

look forward to hearing from you.

Careers and Alumni

Dates for your diary

Follow the link <u>here</u> to view current clubs and societies timetable information.

w/c 24th March (Year 11) **Year 9 Options Evening Year 11 Examinations** Wednesday 12th March

working with our students and want to know more, please contact careers@gilberd.com. We

Mock Oral Exams - 24th to 28th February Drama Practical Exams - 3rd & 4th March Core Mock Exams - 17th to 20th March

Music Solo Performances - 24th to 27th March Dance Practical Exams - 28th March Year 7 Parents' Evening

> Wednesday 26th February (X-Pop) Wednesday 5th March (Y-Pop)

Assessment Weeks

24th February - 7th March (Year 10)

Year 10 Work Experience w/c 10th March (X-Pop)

w/c 17th March (Y-Pop)

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 26th March (X-Pop) Wednesday 2nd April (Y-Pop)

Year 9 Vaccinations

12th & 13th March

Dance Showcase Thursday 3rd April **Easter Ski Trip**

Friday 4th April (school closes at 15:20)

Friday 4th April - Friday 11th April **Last Day of Spring Term**