



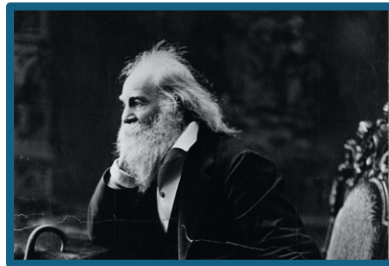
**NEWSLETTER  
APRIL 2025**

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**LOVE, SOCIAL JUSTICE, COMMUNITY, FLOURISH**

**“Keep your face always toward the sunshine – and shadows will fall behind you”  
- Walt Whitman.**

Walter Whitman Jr. was an American poet, essayist, and journalist; he also wrote two novels. He is considered to be one of the most influential poets in American and world literature. Whitman incorporated both transcendentalism and realism in his writings and is often called the father of free verse.



### **A Song of Joys**

O the gleesome saunter over fields and hillsides!  
The leaves and flowers of the commonest weeds, the moist fresh stillness of the woods,  
The exquisite smell of the earth at daybreak, and all through the forenoon.

It has been busy in the spring and it only just feels like we are coming out of the winter period. The weather, at last, is feeling more spring-like. I think that in itself helps us feel better - with some spring sunshine the world does seem like a better place; although there is something to be said for winter hibernation, log fires and a good book.





Nore Academy

We have been busy setting up our new Special School, Nore Academy, and that is now open with children inducted and learning.

Estuary Academy Island

Estuary Academy Island is now well-established in the community and full of young people getting back on track. They are working closely with mainstream schools on the Isle of Sheppey, supporting through outreach and interventions and re-integrating children when they are ready to return to mainstream.

Estuary Academy North

Estuary Academy North is working hard with the Executive Team and, although they have had some challenges, they are really focussed on the children and attaining GCSEs and good outcomes for all, to get them into positive destinations.

Will Adams Academy

Will Adams Academy is now consolidating its development plan in light of its Good Ofsted and is pushing forward in developing work with schools in its locality together with ongoing work with the local authority and its schools.

Saffron Valley Collegiate

Saffron Valley Collegiate is developing strongly and really taking its place in the local authority; it has led in the Trust and nationally on the development of the Task Forces and we are now moving into the next phase of ensuring Task Forces become nationally established in all Alternative Provisions.

The Limes College

The Limes College's Task Force is up and running and making a real difference to the children and young people. It is impacting on behaviour for learning, attendance and exclusions. The Limes College is also leading in the local area on trauma-informed work. This is something we would like to replicate across the Trust's schools.



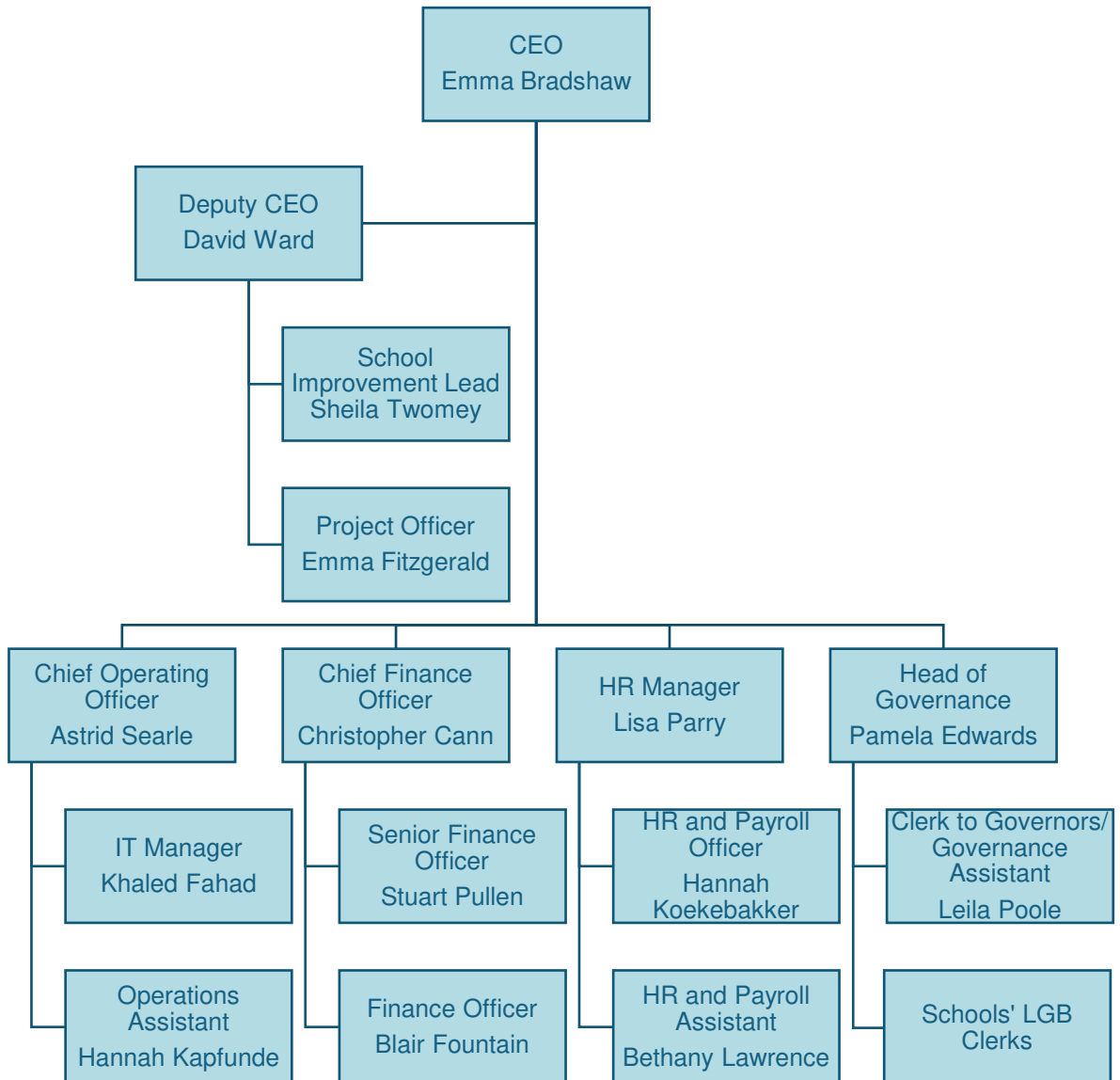


“Nothing is impossible, the word itself says ‘I’m possible’,“ – Audrey Hepburn.

Hepburn took her role as an influencer very seriously. Both on-screen and off, she would try and use her role to inspire a new age of women romanticising the idea of being humanitarian, helpful to those in need and independent.

We have had a busy time as a Central Team – developing office space and the team to support all of the amazing schools in our family.

Trust’s Central Team Structure:





## Bertice Berry

As a sought-after sociologist, Dr Bertice Berry has inspired audiences around the world with works and presentations on Change and Transformation, Leadership, Professional/Personal Development and DEI and Belonging. With a dynamic and interactive approach, Dr Berry delivers powerful messages that leave a lasting impact.

I look forward to walking with all of you purposefully into next term. Whatever challenges we face we hold onto our destiny – Diversity, Equality, Inclusion and Justice are going to be key in delivering our Trust's values and equality duties that we take seriously.

If we are not **Justice** focused we will not be able to **Love** equally and all, build our **Communities** and enable our staff, children and families to **Flourish**.

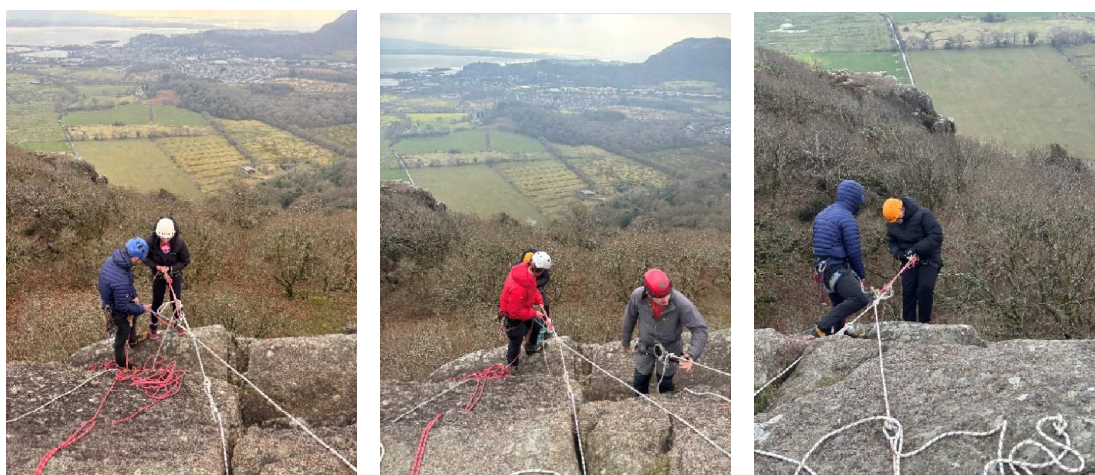
Emma

*In the following pages you can find out more about the activities that have taken place in our schools this term*

## Wales Residential

Recently, a group of students embarked on an exhilarating climbing residential trip to Snowdonia, Wales, where they had the opportunity to engage in two full days of climbing and abseiling. This experience was not only challenging but also immensely rewarding, as the students tested their skills on a variety of high and demanding courses. The stunning backdrop of Snowdonia provided an inspiring setting, complementing the students' pursuit of adventure and personal growth.

They enthusiastically embraced the tasks at hand, tackling both individual and team challenges while demonstrating admirable resilience and determination. The level of cooperation and support exhibited among peers was commendable, fostering a sense of camaraderie that enriched the overall experience.



Throughout the trip, the students maintained exemplary behaviour, reflecting their commitment to the values of respect and responsibility. Their positive attitudes contributed significantly to the success of the residential, enabling them to maximise their learning outcomes while enjoying themselves in a natural environment.

This climbing residential not only enhanced the students' physical capabilities but also instilled important life skills such as problem-solving, teamwork, and self-confidence. It was a privilege to witness their growth and development over the course of the trip, and it is clear that this experience will be cherished by all who participated.

## Careers in Sport Live at the Gtech Community Stadium

Students were afforded an opportunity to attend Careers in Sport Live at the Gtech Community Stadium in Brentford, London. Home to Brentford Football Club, the venue offered a modern and dynamic environment, making it an ideal location for aspiring sports professionals.

Industry professionals provided valuable career insights and guidance. Marcus Gayle (former professional footballer), Lorna Falconer (Brentford Football Club), David Chimbaza (DTCMedia) and Natalie-Mia Roach (Cardiff Metropolitan University) were just some of the professionals who spoke to our students to provide information, advice and guidance. Students got an insight into the inside business of a professional football club, which highlighted the many and varied career pathways that a football club needs to successfully operate. Advice was also given with regards to harnessing the power of social media to build your personal brand.

There was allocated time for networking, and meeting with universities, training providers and industry experts. We were then given a tour of the stadium, much to the students' delight! A brilliant day filled with information and learning, and some entertainment along the way.



## Health Simulation Workshop at London South Bank University

KS4 students attended a Health Simulation Workshop at London South Bank University (Croydon Campus). The day began with a presentation on widening participation and then an information session on health, care, and nursing qualifications. This provided students with an overview of LSBU, the educational pathways on offer, and the practical and technical skills they would develop. Next, students visited a training ward where they were able to physically experience the impact of various health conditions:

- Experiencing the challenges of wearing a bariatric empathy suit to perform everyday tasks like getting out of bed and putting on socks.
- Using 'fragility' gloves that emit a small electrical pulse to simulate shaking, making it difficult to perform simple tasks like pouring water.
- Wearing a geriatric empathy suit with restraints and vision impairment goggles to replicate the discomfort older individuals face in daily life.

Students then visited a training ward with life-sized manikin simulators, crash trolleys and all the equipment you would expect to find on a real hospital ward. They interacted with the 'patients' by taking blood pressure, listening to heartbeats, performing CPR, and learning the ABCDE model. This visit was thoroughly enjoyed by all but more significantly, provided students with:

- A valuable insight into university pathways, further learning, career progression, and enrichment opportunities.
- Hands-on experimental learning that deepened students' social empathy.
- Awareness of the advances in science and technology.



## World Book Day 2025

The staff and students of The Limes College exceeded all expectations this year dressing up as characters from their favourite books. The Wicked Witch of the West was on hand to chase Dorothy and her friends; the tinman, the cowardly lion and of course the scarecrow.



Students were met in reception by Luna Lovegood herself and Cruella spent the day searching for her dalmatians. 'Where's Wally's' were hidden around the school and students spent the day searching for them, before being chased away by the clown from 'It' with his sidekick George. M



As well as World Book Day, we are lucky enough to encounter some new and different opportunities this term.

KS3 students have been studying Macbeth this term, and during their creative English lesson have built their own versions of Macbeth's Dunsinane Castle. A trip has been planned in the last week of term to Hever Castle, the home of Anne Boleyn, so that they can compare how closely their models reflect a real castle.



BOOST have the opportunity to see 'Wicked' at the Apollo Victoria prior to the Easter break and are very excited about going to the theatre and singing along to the songs, they are somewhat disappointed that Ariana Grande is not in the stage production though!





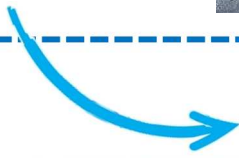
### EAN Bus Project...

Our deputy, Candice, has been working hard on a bus development project. Which had its first big event – the bus has arrived! As we move forward we are looking forward to installing a bedsit on the top deck to help our life skills lessons and a library / small group area downstairs. We are also looking at how we are put our unique visuals on the outside with some graffiti! This forms part of our garden development, which one of our students, Joe, has been working hard to progress. We look forward to keeping you up to date with the project as it moves forward and seeing each stage of development!



### GLC Club...

Rachel, our performing arts teacher, has started our Girls Leading Change group, helping to empower our young people to be the change they want to see in the world. Rachel has helped our young people to think about what healthy relationships look like and understand how to challenge behaviours they don't like in others. We are really proud of the mature approach the young people have taken to this as well as the fantastic information posters they have created to share their understanding with others.

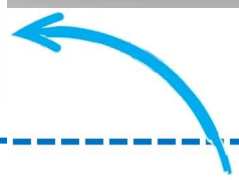


### Welcome to Bruce...

This term, we have welcomed Bruce Roberts to the team. Bruce has joined the team as an SLT consultant. Helping support the school in the run up to the Year 11 exams as well as support us in reviewing our behaviour policy and looking at how we can improve our learning environment.



ESTUARY  
ACADEMY  
NORTH  
INSPIRE, ASPIRE, EMPOWER



### New experiences...

KS3 have had lots of new experiences on their days off-site this term! They have been up to London to experience the live action events at London Dungeons as well as visiting the Olympic Cycle park. They got to have a go at cycling on the velodrome track as well as the challenges of the BMX track. The Olympic Park team were really impressed with the skills they showed while on the tracks.



### Headteacher awards...

Wow! We continue to see so many young people be really proud of their work. The office has been busy with young people collecting headteacher awards. We have seen fabulous maths, brilliant cooking and amazing sports leaders work to name but a few!



## World Book Day - 'Bedtime Stories'

We chose a pyjama-themed World Book Day to help students relax and fall in love with reading – because who wouldn't want to read in their PJs?



## Survival Skills

Our students have been engaging in survival skills lessons, with a curriculum that blends practical experience with theoretical knowledge, allowing students to develop skills like shelter building, water filtration, map reading, and fire making. Through hands-on activities, students work together to construct shelters, build fires, and create unique tools like catapults and even gates, teaching not only valuable survival techniques but also fostering teamwork, problem-solving, and creativity.



## Reward Trips - Ninja Warrior

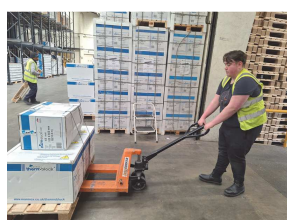
At the end of the February Term, we continued the reward trips, with the 'Gold' Trip going to Ninja Warrior. Two of our girls even won a competition and were rewarded with the prize of being able to play games in the arcade!



Homemade apples pies for Pi Day!



WILL ADAMS  
ACADEMY  
DREAM. BELIEVE. ACHIEVE



## Year 11 Work Experience Week

Our Year 11s proudly represented the school values during their week of Work Experience. We've had incredible feedback, with their mentors praising their work ethic and professionalism when handling tasks. We are happy to say that Viktor was offered a weekend-job after his commitment and hard work during the week!

This term a group of Year 11 students have begun a 12-week program with the DomEG in Trade, Safety and Employment Foundations. This course has been designed specifically for the students at Will Adams to give them a solid foundation in exploring various trades and acquiring essential skills and certificates for their future career aspirations. They have learnt about aspects of Health and Safety across various trades and have earned certificates in these as well as employability skills. All of the students have really enjoyed the course so far.





SAFFRON VALLEY  
COLLEGIATE

BE READY, BE RESPECTFUL, BE SAFE



We have had a very cultured and arty term at Saffron Valley Collegiate with visits to plays and art galleries as well as our usual activities of paint-balling and sports.

### **The Little Foxes at the Young Vic**

Earlier this term students from Saffron Valley Collegiate East enjoyed the opportunity to watch the outstanding Anne-Marie Duff give an incredible performance in Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes*. It was an impactful and engaging experience.



*After a lifetime spent watching her brothers grow rich, Regina Hubbard (Anne-Marie Duff) has had enough of standing around. When a businessman offers the family the prospect of untold wealth and power, a sequence of events unfolds that sets brother against brother, father against son and Regina against the whole pack of them.*

*A story of greed, ambition and a family on the edge, Lillian Hellman's *The Little Foxes* receives a savage new staging by Olivier Award-winning director Lyndsey Turner (*The Witches*, *The Crucible*).*

*"There are people who eat the earth and eat all the people on it. Then there are people who stand around and watch them eat it."*

### **REVIEWS**

*"The play was very interesting and talked about relevant issues that are still a problem today, like domestic abuse."*

*"It was a fun trip and I would recommend it to others who are interested in the Theatre. The Actors also gave very good performances. I would give the play a 3.5/5 overall."* – **by student E**

*"The play was good and the actors were amazing. It was interesting to watch and I would recommend this play if darker themes and justice/history interest you."* – **by student K**

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## **Dulwich Picture Gallery**

Two groups from across Saffron Valley Collegiate visited Dulwich Picture Gallery to take in the Tirza Garwood exhibition.

Tirza Garwood was married to Eric Rebellious who is a famous artist from the 30s-40s, who sadly died during the war. Tirza's work was a revelation, very individual and quirky, with both groups enjoying her work as well as the gallery itself. It was an inspiration for some of the students who have been inspired to refer to Tirza's work for their own art pieces.

The gallery is not very big and not too busy which meant students could take their time and take photos of the work they liked the best. Roy Tonkin, the art teacher and trip lead, was a bit concerned that the students who had chosen 'Human' as a project would find it harder to find inspiration; Garwood's work fits in to the topic Flora and Fauna so well. Roy Tonkin was pleased to feed back that he did not have anything to worry about as the general exhibition fulfilled this criterion perfectly!



## Punch at the Young Vic

Students from across all provisions at Saffron Valley Collegiate enjoyed a VIP experience to see the incredible play 'Punch' at the Young Vic. From the very first minute to the end, it was a gripping tale of how one young man's actions turned so many lives upside down and then through a journey of redemption his own life took another dramatic turn.

It was a wonderful experience and the impact was felt by students who were still talking about it the following week especially the fancy ice creams we all had during the interval!



*Jacob Dunne, a teenager from Nottingham, spends his Saturday nights seeking thrills with his friends. One fateful evening, an impulsive punch leads to fatal consequences. After serving prison time, Jacob finds himself lost and directionless. Searching for answers, Joan and David – the parents of his victim James – ask to meet, sparking a profound transformation in Jacob's life.*



We have had a positive term at Estuary Academy Island and have really started to see the embodiment of ALT's values coming to life through the hard work of our team.



### **Community**

We are proud to serve the community of Sheppey and have been making great links across the schools on the island. Attending the Sheppey Headteachers' forum has allowed us to link with like-minded professionals driven to see transformative change in the educational landscape of Sheppey. We are beginning to work with primary schools to deliver packages of outreach to ensure we are proactive in our approach to support.

Our parental engagement is a key focus and we have built strong relationships across our community of families. This was demonstrated at our Year 11 parent engagement afternoon where 100% of attendees positively responded to feeling supported and that their child was happy in our provision.

Our focus areas over the remainder of the academic year are to develop channels and opportunities for staff voice. We are launching carefully selected staff working parties to enable the mechanism for productive and impactful staff voice, we want everyone to contribute to and develop our community.

We are great believers in developing relationships with a range of stakeholders to enhance the experience for our students. We have utilised the Kenwood Trust Programme and brought in Andy Watson to deliver targeted interventions amongst our entire cohort. Andy uses his own story of drugs and alcohol, prison, rehabilitation and reform to encourage positive behaviour choices amongst our students. Andy has been working with young people in anti-social behaviour hotspots, mentoring hard-to-reach young people who are really struggling, and extends offers of support and advice to families. This intervention has received positive engagement with students transfixed!

## Love

In a more trivial perception of love our Estuary Academy Island students enjoyed celebrating Valentine's Day making pastry hearts to share with their friends along with a range of arts and crafts.

And in a more traditional holistic sense, we are fostering love through our rewards strategy. Utilising Class Charts we have built a bank of rewards which are given daily to students for demonstrating life, community and academic skills. These rewards have established a feeling of belonging and love. Students are enjoying receiving these as this is the first time they have been rewarded in the school environment. Rewards continue to grow in popularity with students who have seen their hard work and progress translated into tangible rewards they can enjoy.



## Flourish

We are working with our Year 11s to ensure they can flourish in their post-16 ventures. We are undertaking extensive work with CXK. The heart of CXK's mission is to inspire people to thrive. They provide high quality support with a focus on the needs of the individuals they support. Through their three key pillars of work – Information Advice and Guidance; Targeted Support; and Training and Development – they help students develop new approaches and skills to maximise their potential.

At Key stage 3 we have been trialling a project-based curriculum to engage learners in fast-paced topics, that are skills focused, to ensure that gaps are not widened during their time with us and that we re-engage them with learning, helping them flourish in their next steps. We have covered topics linked with gaming, sports and music.

## Social Justice

We are advocates for fairness in education and the partnerships we are establishing have helped support reintegration and transition plans into mainstream schools for our students. Partnership working has meant successful stories of children achieving well in a mainstream environment are being reported back to us and we could not be happier for our students and families on Sheppey that they are receiving the education they rightfully deserve.

We recognise we are on a journey at Estuary Academy Island but are proud of what we are achieving for the people at the heart of it – our students and families.





# NOREI ACADEMY

COURAGE, KINDNESS, COMMUNITY, EMPOWERMENT

Welcome to Nore Academy  
*We are open!*



