



The Appleton School Parent Bulletin

08.11.24

Key Dates

04.11.24 to 14.11.24
Year 11 Exam Week

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House System

Congratulations to all pupils in Year 7, 8 and 9 and 10 for your achievement points that you have earned since the start of the academic year.



House	Grand Total
Austen	7829
Nightingale	7782
Tull	8815
Turing	8418
Grand Total	32848

Attendance & Achievement

How much does attendance impact on achievement and success?

The school's expectation of attendance is at least 97%. The impact on good attendance on your progress is shown in the table below with 94 % of students achieving their target grades at the end of year 11. The higher your attendance the best possible chance of personal success!

Attendance %	Achieve expected target grades.	You will only achieve your target grade in:
<80%	20%	2 of your subjects
80-84.9%	33%	3 of your subjects
85-89.9%	46%	4 of your subjects
		You will achieve your target grade in:
90-91.9%	53%	5 out of 9 subjects
92-95.9%	75%	7 out of 9 subjects
96%	84%	8 out of 9 subjects
97%	94%	9 out of 9 subjects



Appleton Remembers



Poppies are available to purchase at Student Services this week and Monday 11th November during break time.

There are an array of Poppy styles available, including beautiful hand crocheted badges, accepting a donation for this style and metal pin badges available for £2 each.

'Lest we forget'

Students at The Appleton School have been learning about the importance of Remembrance in preparation for the upcoming Remembrance services across the nation on Sunday 10th November. Students have been finding out about the 2024 British Legion Poppy Appeal. Details were given about the service of the Benfleet fallen from WWI, with students reading examples of war poetry including John McCrae's 'In Flanders Fields.'

Year 7 students then took part in the planting of poppy crosses in the school garden to mark the The Appleton School's act of remembrance.



We would like to invite any students that attend uniformed services, to attend school in their respective uniforms on Monday 11th November.



A photograph of a library display titled "War and Remembrance Library Spotlight". The display features a sign with a red poppy and silhouettes of soldiers. Below the sign, several books are arranged on wooden shelves. Visible titles include "The Boy Who Swam to Freedom", "Goodnight Mister Tom", "Private Peaceful", "Wave Me Goodbye", "Asylum", "The Boy Who Swam to Freedom", "Pax", "The War of Wonders", and "The Boy Who Swam to Freedom".



General Notices

Book of the Week



The Appleton School

Book of the week



Title: The Dead

Author: Charlie Higson

The Dead is the second book in Charlie Higson's jaw-dropping zombie horror series for teens. Everyone over the age of fourteen has succumbed to a deadly zombie virus and now the kids must keep themselves alive. A terrible disease is striking everyone over the age of fourteen. Death walks the streets. Nowhere is safe.





PE Fixtures

Monday 11th November 2024

Year 8 Netball Castle View (H) -

U13 Essex Cup Basketball Westcliff High School for Boys (A)

Tuesday 12th November 2024

District Cross Country

Thursday 14th November 2024

Harrow Cross Country

U13 Football Chase (A)

Friday 15th November 2024

U12 Essex Cup Netball Thorpe Hall (A)

PE Shoutouts

Well done to the year 7 Basketball team for beating Cornelius 32-6

Mr Rowe, Head of Physical Education



Appleton Talented Young Poet

Recently, one of our year 11 students, Chantel Sorae, was invited to a prestigious poetry award ceremony: the Foyle Young Poets of the year 2024 which was jointly hosted by the Foyle Foundation and The Poetry Society.

The ceremony was held at The British Library Knowledge Centre in London, where there was a ceremony to read out the top 15 poems, as well as a Q&A with the judges and two past winners. Afterwards everyone received a prize bag and a certificate to commemorate their efforts.

Commenting on the experience, Chantel said, *"It was a great experience and an honour to be with so many people with a passion for writing like me. It has definitely encouraged and inspired me to continue writing poetry in the future."*

Chantel is a talented writer who regularly attends our Creative Writing Club, run by Mr Foster at lunch-time on a Wednesday, where she is an inspiration to our younger writers! Her poem, *Click*, is notable for the unusual use of form and striking imagery that is both subtle and mature. Congratulations Chantel - you have made the English Department extremely proud!

Click

The flickering of a film. / Slippery and fickle. / Iridescent fuel seeps from her fingers. // It all comes to life in the dark-room. // Dreams are strung out on yarn. / Regaining clarity with the motions of a Polaroid. / Drawing lilac streaks out from abyssal ink. / Reproducing memories in the third person. // Unravelling in her mind. // She blinks and it's like the shutter of a camera // She speaks as if she's keeping to common time. / A performance so perfect it can collapse at a moment's notice. / Idle praise washes over her shrine. / Her body is a temple / and no photos are allowed. // Existing as fragmented memories. / Imprisoned in the cubic metres of the brain. / The solution is to rot away backstage. / Neuron's fire— / A lens replacement. / Electricity spirals— / Eyes crinkle for the photo. / Sparks ignite— // The flickering of a flame.





Essex County Council
Libraries



Create your own fairy tale

with our new Author in Residence
Gina Blaxill

Chelmsford Library

Saturday 14 December

1.30-2.30pm (age 12-14)

3-4pm (age 15-17)



Book via
library-events.essex.gov.uk



Parent Support Sessions



Parent Support Sessions



Parent Support Session course delivered by Mr Clout
Starting on Tuesday 17th September the course runs for 10 weeks during term time. This course is open to all parents and covers the following topics:

- The parenting philosophy induction session.
- The tug of war!
- Active Listening.
- Praise and Encouragement
- Whose problem is it?
- Consequences!
- Good days and bad days!
- Managing the stress
- Supporting the vulnerable child

The course will run from 6.00pm - 7.30pm on the following dates in N4 at The Appleton School:

- Tuesday 17th, 24th September 2024
- Tuesday 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd October 2024
- Tuesday 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th November

If you wish to attend please call the school and register your interest on 01268 794215 or email your interest to

info@theappletonschool.org



Attendance



Being In School, On Time Really Matters



Did You Know... ?

If your attendance	You would miss	you are likely to achieve your target grade in
was 97%	5 days of school	9 out of 9 GCSEs
was 95%	9 days of school	7 out of 9 GCSEs
was 92%	15 days of school	5 out of 9 GCSEs
was 90%	19 days of school	4 out of 9 GCSEs
was 85%	29 days of school	3 out of 9 GCSEs

WE WANT YOU TO ACHIEVE YOUR BEST

Check your current attendance using the Edulink App

100% Attendance



Did you know that all students with 100% attendance are entered into a weekly prize draw for a Golden Ticket to jump the queue at break and lunch?

And students with 100% attendance all term receive a special attendance award!

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Matters



Research shows us that there is a direct link between pupils attendance at school and how well they achieve

Congratulations to the following tutor groups who had the best attendance in their year group this week.

702	Miss Gough	98.97%
807	Mrs Claxton	96.3%
909	Mr Kyprianou/Miss Bowles	96.2%
1005	Mrs Wilson/Mrs Starling	96.2%
1107	Mrs Edwards/Mrs Dowle	94.7%



General Notices

Vision and Values

Currently, our students are reviewing the core vision and values of our school. Our vision is that we are “achieving excellence” together. Our core values help us learn important qualities and behaviours that encourage us to be responsible and kind citizens, and help us grow as individuals and in friendships.

- ⇒ **Respect:** We should appreciate everyone in our community. We are all unique and deserve kindness. We should also take care of our school family and wider community.
- ⇒ **Resilience:** It's important to face challenges bravely. We can learn from our mistakes and successes. We should be ready for changes and handle tough times calmly.
- ⇒ **Community:** We are all part of the Appleton family. Let's all work together to make our school a happy place. We should be proud of our diverse community and get involved.
- ⇒ **Aspiration:** We should aim high and always try our best. Let's work hard to do well in everything we do.

Respect

Recognise the value we all give to society. Recognise we are all different from one another and deserve respect. Care for our immediate and wider environment. With respect being fostered by our community we will **excel together**.

Resilience

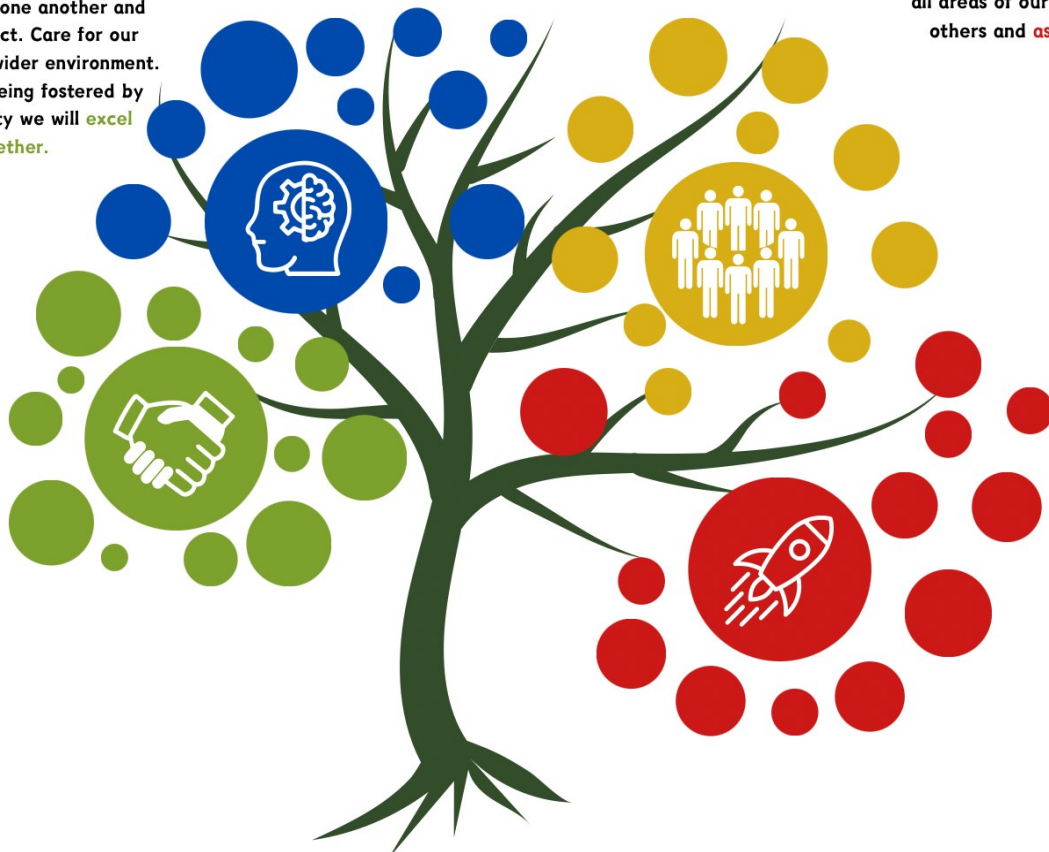
Embrace the opportunity to face challenges. Value the chance to learn and grow from both our successes and mistakes. Adapt to change and manage stress to overcome set-backs, leading to us to **persevere together**.

Community

Commit to making a positive contribution to our Appleton Family. Value and connect with our diverse community with purpose and pride. By working together we will **innovate together**.

Aspiration

Commit to ambitious individual goals and have high expectations. Demonstrate motivation to thrive in all areas of our lives. To inspire others and **aspire together**.





Safeguarding

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children: they observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them. Demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.

2 AGREE TO DISAGREE

Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.

3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING

Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint, even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and allows for a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.

4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS

If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel..." or "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.

5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER

When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on criticising and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.

6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS

It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Remind children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.

7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT

Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, to friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.

8 SEEK COMMON GROUND

When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demonising each other.

9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL

It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.

10 REFLECT AND LEARN

After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could use role play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical examples to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

Meet Our Expert

The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.



Source: See full reference list on guide page 05



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

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Talking About Transition

at The Appleton School

Expert trainers from **Talk The Talk** came into school on **Friday 4th October** to work with **Year 7** students. Talk The Talk's mission is to develop students' **oracy skills** and **communication confidence** to support positive interaction in all life situations and improved social outcomes.

Talk The Talk has trained over 115,000 students to be confident communicators across England and Wales since they began in 2013.

Talk About Transition uses oracy-based activities and strategies to help students develop greater self-confidence and resilience. Delivered as a half day workshop and packed full of engaging activities to promote students' confidence, self-esteem and help build relationships with their new peers, Talk About Transition supports students in a successful transition from primary to secondary school.

Transition to secondary school involves changes that can be both exciting and a cause of concern to students. Successful transition is vital to the development of students' self-confidence, self-esteem and academic competence. Moving on from the safe haven of primary school - one classroom and often one teacher - to a much larger school and the feeling of being a 'small fish in a large pond' can cause worry and anxiety. Our programme embraces this change and allows students to talk about their concerns and how to overcome them – but also the fantastic opportunities that await them – and how best to embrace these.

Talk The Talk

These **Talk About Transition** workshops are part funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation.

We really hope that our selected Year 7 students enjoyed participating in the workshop, and can't wait to see how they use their improved communication skills and confidence to help them in other aspects of school life! Well done Year 7.

Talk The Talk
CONFIDENT COMMUNICATION FOR LIFE





ACL

COMMUNITY & FAMILY LEARNING

FREE

ONLINE WORKSHOPS
FOR
PARENTS & CARERS

NEW session
subjects added
regularly!

SETTING BOUNDARIES
MANAGING BIG EMOTIONS
UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S ANXIETY
SAVE ENERGY, SAVE MONEY
WINTER BUDGETING



SCAN ME

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO ENROL...[SCAN QR CODE](#), [CLICK HERE](#), OR [VIEW WEBSITE](#).

NEED HELP? EMAIL ACL.FAMILYLEARNING@ESSEX.GOV.UK



'FAMILY LEARNING'
ACLESSEX.COM



Essex County Council



General Notices

Uniform

During the school term we have noticed that the students' uniform is not meeting the usual high standards and we ask for parental support in ensuring the students are meeting the expectations. Going forward we will be confiscating any items that are not part of our uniform policy, this includes jewellery and sports tops/hoodies.

In warmer weather we permit students to take off blazers but they should be on their person and a sports jacket or hoody should not be worn as a replacement.

A link to the school's uniform expectations is here: <https://theappletonschool.org/parents/uniform-and-equipment>.

If there are any issues with uniform e.g. shoes are broken, then please just send your child in with a note so an exemption pass can be issued.

FAQs

1. Why a focus on uniform?
The school represents that students are part of the Appleton Community and we want them to be proud of that fact , exactly how a sports team wear the same kit.
2. But uniform does not impact their education?
There have been various studies on this over the years, but a uniform takes off the pressure from students and parents to have the latest designer clothing to allow them to focus on their learning. Further to this , it reduces points of conflict with staff, by meeting the basic uniform expectations means that everyone can focus on the learning in a positive learning environment.



FORMAL PRACTICAL BLACK LEATHER SHOES (or faux leather alternative) which must have a heel and black laces (where applicable).

Not permitted: Sports brands, emblems or logos. Canvas shoes, flat sole style shoes, trainers, high heels or boots

PLAIN BLACK, FORMAL TROUSERS, which go over shoes.

Not permitted: Jeans, cropped trousers, stretchy, jersey or Lycra. Skinny-fit trousers, jeggings or leggings, brushed cotton/ chino style trousers.

OR

FORMAL BLACK KILTIED SKIRT
Approved length 22 inches

Not permitted: Stretchy, jersey, Lycra or tube style skirts

MAKE UP AND JEWELLERY

- No false eyelashes
- No nail polish or acrylic nails
- No excessive make-up
- Students are allowed one ring of sensible size, a watch and one stud earring in each ear, no other piercings are permitted.
- No other jewellery allowed

For further details visit the uniform section of The Appleton School website



**THE APPLETON
SCHOOL**

Croft Road
Benfleet
Essex
SS7 5RN

Phone:
01268 794215

Email:
info@theappletonschoo.org

Website:
www.theappletonschoo.org

Quick Links

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Autumn Term Dates

Friday 20th September **Non-pupil day**

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November **Half term**

Friday 20th December **Last day of term**

Spring Term Dates

Friday 3rd January **Non-pupil day**

Monday 6th January **Students return**

Monday 17th February- Friday 21st February **Half term**

Friday 7th March **Non-pupil day**

Friday 4th April **Last day of term**

Summer Term Dates

Monday 21st April **Bank Holiday**

Tuesday 22nd April **Students return**

Monday 5th May **Bank Holiday**

Monday 26th May – Friday 30th May **Half Term**

Friday 18th July **Last day of term**

Monday 21st July **Non-pupil day**

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GCSE Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your child when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

<http://www.theappletonschool.org/students/revision-resources>

A-Level Revision Resources

We have provided a wide range of resources to aid your son/daughter when it comes to their revision for each of their examination subjects.

<http://www.theappletonschool.org/sixth-form/student-life/ks5-resources>

Extra-Curricular Clubs and Activities

Please click on the following link to go direct to the site:

<https://www.theappletonschool.org/parents/clubs-and-activities>

Alternatively, you can access the time tables directly via the following links:

<https://www.theappletonschool.org/user/pages/04.parents/19.clubs-and-activities/Extra%20Curricular%20Clubs%20and%20Activities.pdf>

https://www.theappletonschool.org/user/pages/04.parents/19.clubs-and-activities/Extra%20Curricular_Oct-Dec_24.pdf