

The Boswells School

Weekly Bulletin



Friday 7th October 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

On Wednesday evening, we welcomed a huge number of visitors to the school for our annual Open Evening. This follows on from our 'Meet the Students' event and 'Open Tours', which I have mentioned in previous newsletters, that form the foundation for us to promote all the wonderful opportunities that our students get to experience at the school. There were many reasons why I was an extremely proud Headteacher. Firstly, all the effort that had been put into the evening by our staff and secondly the sheer number of students that gave up their own time to take part in activities or act as student guides for the evening. They were brilliant and the leadership skills that our students demonstrate is truly inspiring. A special mention must go to Rebecca Toms, one of our Year 8 students, who prepared and delivered a speech to two packed audiences about what it's like to be a student at the Boswells School and what the school has to offer. A number of our visitors expressed to me how impressed they were with all of our students, so a huge thank you to them for their incredible effort. In this newsletter, you can see some of the wonderful photos from the evening.

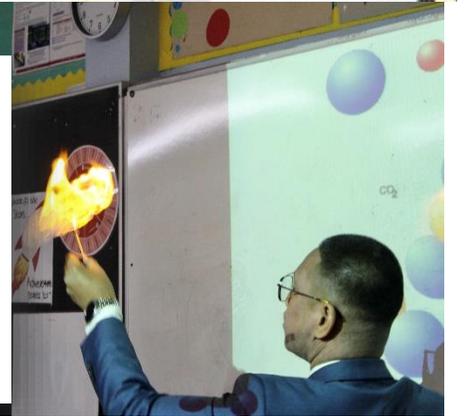
On Thursday next week, our Year 11 students will begin their first set of formal mock examinations. This will be their first experience of the year sitting exam papers under formal conditions in our Theatre and Gym. At the start of the year the students were given folders that include personalised learning checklists, and their teachers will be putting further information on Satchel One in order to help them to revise. It will feel very daunting, but the most important thing at this stage is that the students just do their very best.

Thank you to all the parents of our Year 11 students that attended the Study Skills Workshop online last Saturday morning. By all accounts, it was a very positive session and hopefully it will give those that attended a guide on how best to support their child at home.

Two key events to flag for next week. On Monday, we have our Year 8 Parents' Information Evening taking place in the Theatre then on Tuesday night our Careers Evening takes place. The Careers Evening is always a well-attended event, but one we have not been able to run since before the pandemic. It is primarily for Year 10 to Year 13 students and their parents and is always a great opportunity to learn what opportunities there are post 16 and 18, with a vast number of companies and educational establishments represented.

Have a great weekend.

Stephen Mansell
Headteacher



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Upcoming Events

-  **Monday 10th October – 6.30pm -Year 8 Parents Information Evening**
-  **Tuesday 11th October – 6-8pm - Careers Evening**
-  **Wednesday 12th October – 6pm – Parent Forum**
-  **Thursday 13th October – 4-7pm – Year 7 Tutor Evening**
-  **Thursday 20th October- 6.30pm - Year 7 Parents Information Evening**
-  **Friday 21st October – INSET Day**

Attendance

ABSENCE LINE: 01245 264451 Press 1 or, use the Absence Reporting function in the Edulink App or via email: attendance@boswells-school.com

Please remember you are required to call The Boswells School absence line **each and every day** your child is absent by 8.00am, unless a pre-authorized absence or COVID related AND you have informed us you are self-isolating following a positive test.

The following examples are **not** reasons for absence: headache; stomach ache; feeling tired; runny nose; sneezing; sore throat; period pains – please visit NHS Guide to School Absence for more details.

As of 24th February 2022, there is no legal requirement to test for COVID or self-isolate unless you are unwell and wish to do so.

Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling:

Phone: **0800 046 8687**

Opening hours:

Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm

Saturday to Sunday from 10am to 4pm

Updated Government Guidelines on Student Attendance

- If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and where possible, avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test. The risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower after 3 days if they feel well and do not have a high temperature.
- Children and young people who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

Information and Notices



Mental health

Mental health problems can affect anyone, any day of the year, but World Mental Health Day on 10th October is a great day to show your support for better mental health and to start looking after your own wellbeing. For this reason throughout the month of October each Wellbeing Wednesday session in school will focus on a different aspect of self-care.

Further sources of information can be found below:

<https://www.headstogether.org.uk/>

https://www.youngminds.org.uk/?gclid=EAlaIQobChMIINvHi9ue5QIVx8jeCh0dfQr4EAAYASAAEgJ5T_D_BwE

<https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/world-mental-health-day>

Keeping up to speed

As well as our website, you can keep up to speed with everything that is happening at the school by following us on Twitter (@BoswellsSchool) or on our Facebook page (The Boswells School Official). You can also sign up to receive our press and media releases direct to your email address. This service is free of charge and can be accessed by emailing boswellsnews@gmail.com and asking to be added to the distribution list.



Keeping up to Date

If any of your contact details have changed, please let us know by emailing admin@boswells-school.com. It will soon be possible to check and update your details in the EdulinkOne app.

Useful Guides

SatchelOne have excellent help guides for all aspects of the system including troubleshooting

<https://help.satchelone.com/en/>

We have guides on our website, including SIMS Parent, Office 365, ParentPay, Access E-Mails, and SatchelOne

<https://www.boswells-school.com/students-staff/user-guides.htm>

Contacting Us

Main Reception is open from 8.00am to 4.00pm. Staff contact details can be found on our website – [Our Staff](#)

If you wish to contact us, you can call on 01245 264451 between the hours above, but in most cases the best way to contact us is via the school email account (admin@boswells-school.com). You should expect to receive a response within 2 school days, but if your queries are urgent, we will endeavour to deal with them as soon as practicable.

NOTE: Please ensure the email address 8815416@sims-communications.co.uk is added to your “safe-senders” list to be sure that you receive our updates, but ***please do not use*** this address to contact us – it is for our outgoing e-mails ***only***.

Please remind your child that there are multiple forms of support accessible to them at school. If they have a concern with a subject, they should communicate with the subject teacher directly or additional help can be sought from the subject Head of Department. Their tutor who they see daily is the best person to inform about any concerns or ask any questions which are not related to a subject. They may also wish to access support in their relevant student services – year 7 and 8 is located in the C block corridor near the front office and Year 9,10 and 11 is based in B Block by the staffroom. Here students will find their Head of Year and members of the Pastoral team. They may also wish to report any safeguarding and wellbeing concerns through the email address letusknow@boswells-school.com. Miss Noble (Deputy Headteacher) is the safeguarding lead and students are welcome to see her to access support. Her office is in B block on route to the Drama and Music departments. There are lots of support and information websites and helplines accessible on the Safeguarding page of the website following the link below:

<https://www.boswells-school.com/safeguarding.htm>

As a school we aim to respond to communication from parents within 48 hours. To ensure you get the best support please ensure you direct your communication to the most relevant member of staff. Subject queries should in the first instance go to the subject teacher and then the Head of Department of Faculty. Pastoral concerns should go via tutors and then the Head of year. A list of staff details can be found on the link below:

<https://www.boswells-school.com/about-us/our-staff.htm>

The Boswells School Current Vacancies



Please click [here](#) to view current Staff Vacancies



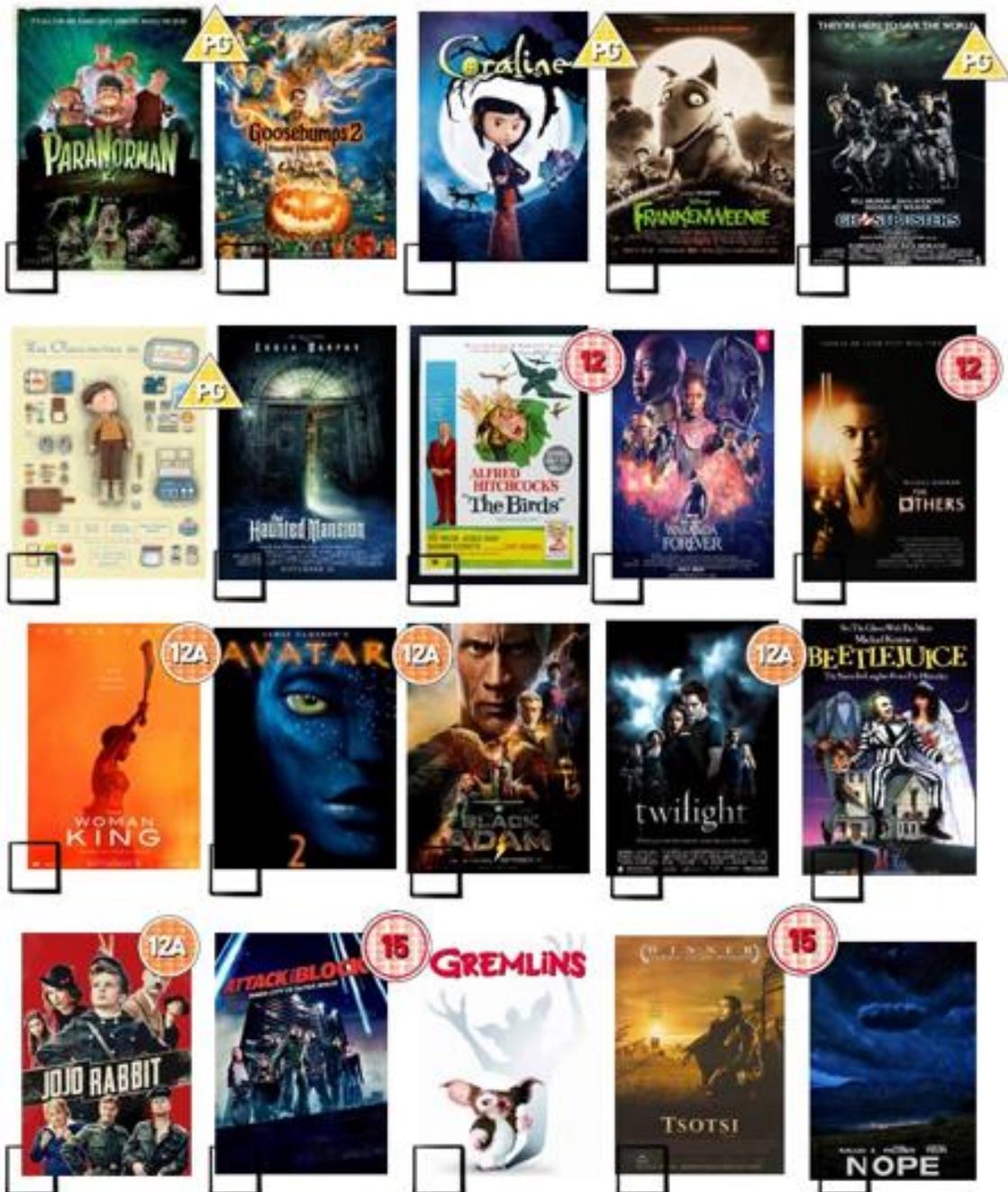
For CLP Vacancies please click [here](#)

Film Competition

Want to build your film knowledge and film literacy? Need some entertainment during the dark, winter months? Students get involved in the Boswells' Film Competition. Simply watch 5 films from the list and write a review of one of your choices. Submit your ticked sheet and review by **18th November 2022** to receive House points and the chance of a film goodie pack. **More details on Satchel:One.**

Boswells' Autumn Film Challenge

How many of these films can you watch over the Autumn term to develop your knowledge of cinema and culture? Watch 5 or more, and write one review, to receive House points and your entry in a prize draw.

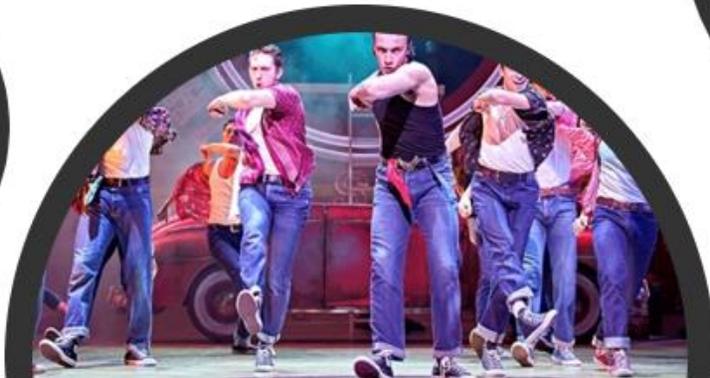


Watch films responsibly. Use the age ratings to guide your choices.

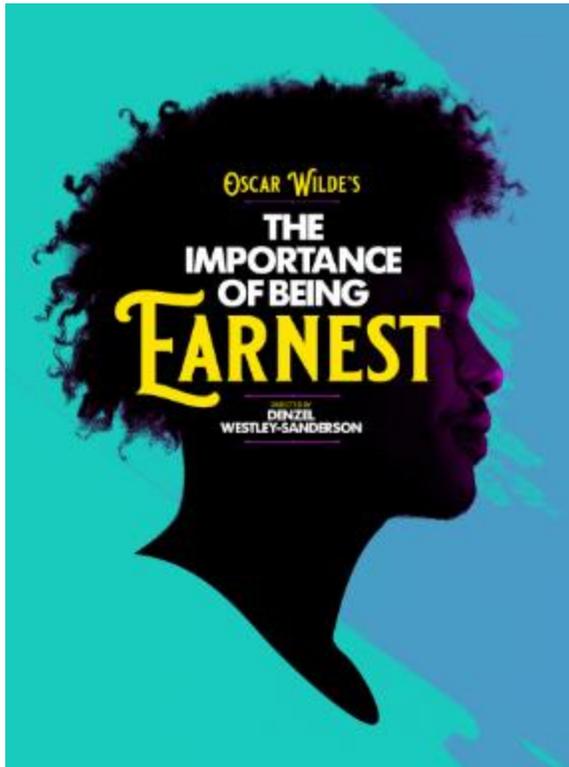
Celebrating Success

Grease Theatre Trip

Last night a group of more than 90 students and staff had the pleasure of heading to London and to the Dominion Theatre to see ex Boswells student Paul French in the hit West End musical 'Grease'. The trip had been arranged for the performing and creative arts students as a reward trip for participation in rehearsals for the whole school production 'Shrek', as well as an opportunity for the year 10 BTEC Production and Musical Theatre students to watch the production they are studying as part of their course. We were delighted when Paul came and said hello to some of the group after the show before we headed home.



The Importance of Being Earnest



At the end of last month, 18 students headed off to Ipswich to see the English Touring Theatre version of ***The Importance of Being Earnest***. The students were mainly A level students and about three quarters of them had already begun studying this play in class.

In the student's own words:

'I was really pleased that I understood some of the deeper themes of the play after just a few weeks studying it!'

'I hadn't been to a professional production before and the experience of being there and seeing it all happen live was great.'

'I felt very invested in the characters. I loved the way they gender swapped Dr Chasuble'

'Having an 'all black' cast really made me think about the black people in Victorian times whose history has been forgotten.'

'Loved Cecily!'

'It was very funny with a lot more slapstick than I expected!'

And a year 13 commented-

'I loved being able to know what lines were coming up next- but I didn't like them swapping cucumber sandwiches for cucumber martinis!'

Mrs Wilson, Head of KS5 English commented *'We love going to the theatre, especially when our set texts are on stage. It makes such a difference to how students understand their texts and is also a tremendous experience. '*



House Tables

	70 Points
	80 Points
	50 Points
	80 Points
	20 Points
	120 Points

Congrats!



Last Week

Including last weeks' House Battle Results

	170 Points
	150 Points
	190 Points
	200 Points
	100 Points
	230 Points

Congrats!



Overall

Got a degree you're not really using? Thinking about becoming a teacher?



Robert, former School Direct trainee

Find out how you can **gain qualified teacher status (QTS)**, and an optional **post-graduate certificate in education (PGCE)** through the **Essex School**

Join the next Essex School Direct online information event:

Tuesday 18 October, from 7.30pm

Scan the QR code to view our events and register for the latest one via Eventbrite, or visit our website:

<https://www.essexschooldirect.com/events/>



Our school is part of the Essex School Direct programme, which allows you to train with us or in a partnership school, local to you. You'll work as a member of the school team and learn your skills from **experienced professionals**, supplemented by high quality **online learning sessions**.

Get tailored, one-to-one advice today:

Call: 020 8498 6718

Email: teach@essexschooldirect.com

Visit: <https://www.essexschooldirect.com>

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Train to Teach with the best - Essex School Direct

Log onto our latest virtual event (or come and meet us) to and find out more

Essex School Direct is a large and successful teacher training provider, covering the Epping Forest, Chelmsford, Harlow, Havering and Herts areas. If you're looking for a new challenge during these uncertain times, or if you have a degree and would like to put it to good use, you should consider teaching. Currently, we are training over 50 teachers, both primary and secondary, in 24 Good & Outstanding schools.

We work with the vast majority of secondary schools in areas we cover. We also have a primary teaching training hub in Chelmsford. Our completion rate is sector-leading – last year, it was 97%, which is significantly higher than most programmes. An impressive 74% of our trainees found employment in partnership schools – the majority of those before the end of the course and many in the school where they trained. (Our trainees often know about opportunities long before anyone else and schools like dealing with a training provider they know and trust.) There are many teachers in all of our local schools that have trained with us.

It's a great time to be joining the profession - starting pay is good and there are strong promotion opportunities. We have a part-time route for those who would be unable to train full-time and we pride ourselves on being a flexible and caring team. Our trainees are a very diverse group; they range in age from early 20s to mid-50s and beyond, some come straight from university, many are career changers and others are returning to work after starting families. **The minimum requirement is a recognised degree and GCSEs (or equivalent) in Maths and English Language at Grade C/4 (+ Science Grade C/4 for primary trainees).**

Interested? Look at our website www.essexschooldirect.com. We host regular Zoom Information Evenings, where you can listen to us describe the programme and hear from recent, current and future trainees (people you would be joining if you come and train with us). So if you, a friend, or a relative is thinking of training from next September (or in the future) please encourage them to tune in, or contact us for a chat.

Our next virtual information evening is: **Tuesday 18th October at 7.30pm.**

You can register via [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com), find the details on our [website](http://www.essexschooldirect.com) or just join the Zoom below!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81139178247pwd=TFFyNUg1ZnZHTUZGeEFCVzBCYTJEUT09>

Meeting ID: 928 7273 2583 Passcode: 568272

David Parker

Director of ITT, Essex School Direct

020 8498 6718

teach@essexschooldirect.com

www.essexschooldirect.com

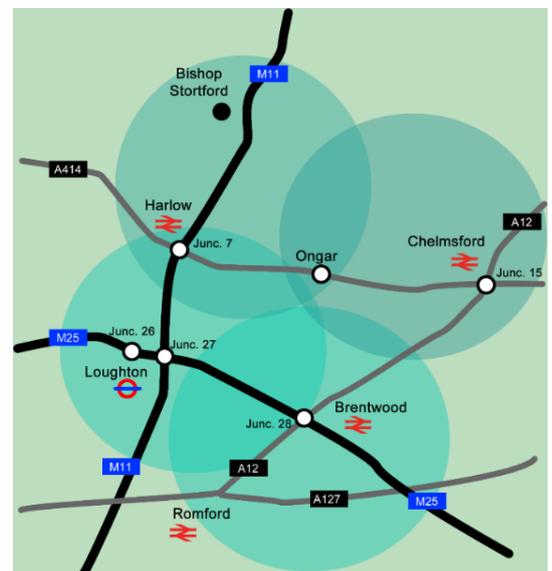
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- here's where you'll find our
partner schools**



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