



# Clacton County High School Sigma Sixth Tending Weekly News



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[Link to Weekly Notices](#)

## ***Creative Poets Get a Special Surprise***

During the Autumn term a number of Year 7 students studied Imitiaz Dharker's poem 'A Century Later', which talks about Pakistani human rights advocate, Malala Yousafzai and her struggle to be educated. In October 2012, while on a bus in Pakistan, the 15-year old was shot by a Taliban gunman in an assassination attempt targeting her for her activism. She was struck in the head by a bullet and remained unconscious and in critical condition in hospital before being transferred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham for specialist treatment. The attempt on her life sparked an international outpouring of support. In 2014 Yousafzai became the youngest Nobel Peace Prize laureate at the age of seventeen.



To conclude their English poetry lesson, the Year 7 students put on their creative hats to produce a number of short poems about the importance of education. The students created some outstanding poems, especially as it was the first-time writing poetry at CCHS. In particular, one student, Neha, managed to reference Malala in her poem and referred to the right to be educated. English teacher, Mr Elsey was so proud of some of the work produced by his English class that he enthused about their creations with his wife, who by-chance was attending a 'Ladies Naval Cricket Team' dinner that very same day; She is a Royal Navy Petty Officer and former student of CCHS.

In a chance encounter at the dinner, she recounted her husband's pride to a stranger who subsequently asked to be sent some of the poems. The stranger turned out to be Dudana Ansari Sahiba, a renowned activist for women's rights amongst many other celebrated achievements. It transpired that she knew the Yousafzai family and unbeknown to our students sent their poems to Malala and her family.



*Mr Elsey's Year 7 Poets pictured with Neha and her personalised copy of Malala's Autobiography*

This week, as a surprise to everyone, the class were greeted with a special delivery from the Yousafzai family - a personal letter from Malala's father, education activist Ziauddin Yousafzai, and copies of Malala's autobiography, entitled '*I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban*'. Malala has written personal messages in each copy, one directly to Neha and one for the school to further inspire young people to celebrate the right to education.

## ***Student Leaders Help Spread the Love at Valentines***

This week, our student leaders have been allowing students to tell a friend how much they mean to them, to thank someone for being there for them, or just show their appreciation to someone. The Leaders set-up their Valentines stall in Clouds at break and lunch for students to fill in their 'Valentine Appreciation Cards', which had to include who was sending the message. All the special messages were then delivered to their recipients in form earlier today.



## ***Non-Pupil Day – Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February***

Following next week's half term holiday, there is a Trust wide non-pupil day for staff training on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February. **Students return to school for the second half of the spring term on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February at 8.45am.**

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## Students Embrace Public Speaking

Last week, over ninety Year 10 students participated in one of three all-day Jack Petchey "Speak Out" challenge workshops. The Jack Petchey Foundation funds these public speaking sessions for students across the country because they believe that young people sometimes lack the confidence, skills and opportunities to share their ideas.



The workshops focused on equipping students with the skills and confidence to be better public speakers, as well as attentive listeners. Within the workshops, the Year 10 students shared their personal views and perspectives on topics with their classmates. In doing so, they felt empowered and listened to, as well as increasing their empathy for each other. The workshop facilitator praised our students for taking part and overcoming nerves and fears. She also commented on a number of the excellent speeches, that have a good chance of doing well in the next stage of the competition too! A number of finalists were chosen from each session for their outstanding speeches. Well done to Adriel – 'Racism'; Kaitlin – 'There's light at the end of the tunnel'; Andriela – 'Found my voice – found my freedom'; Evie – 'Talking about ticks!'; Jackson – 'Piano (Not what you lift, it's what lifts you)'; Ben – 'No more War'; Anna – 'Elderly Respect'; Harry – 'Role Models'; Ellie – 'Rude is Easy, Respect is Right'; Annalise – 'Love' and Daniel – 'Sleep'. They will now take part in our in-school competition in a few weeks to choose one person, and a reserve, for the Regional Final of this year's Speak Out Challenge being held at St Benedict's College on the 23<sup>rd</sup> April. If successful, they will have the chance to perform in the national final in London's West End later this year. Good luck to them all!

## Millie is Essex Junior Champion

Back in December we reported on the success of Millie in Year 7, at the British Junior Archery Nationals Competition. She has recently added to her achievements at the Essex Archery Association County Indoor Championships, held last weekend at Sandon School in Chelmsford. Despite her age, Millie was competing against all of the junior archers from across Essex in a single Under 18 championship, spread across the two days of competition. Although she didn't shoot as well as she had anticipated, mainly due to a number of technical issues, she still managed to score a very respectable 508 points out of a maximum of 600. This was a fantastic achievement, especially when the entire target is just 40cm wide and she was shooting from a distance of 18m away. Millie's performance, not only earned her a new Under 14 Female County record, but she also managed to score higher than any of her opposition, to take the title of Essex Under 18 Junior Female Champion 2025. Well done Millie!



## Safer Internet Day

This week's Safer Internet Day focused on **'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'** assessing the real scale of this issue and building on the important work being done to raise awareness of issues such as online financial extortion and consider the future of scams, such as:

- How is changing technology, like generative AI, going to impact the approach of scammers?
- What role can the government and internet industry take to tackle this threat?
- And what changes would young people like to see to help protect themselves moving forward?

Safer Internet Day inspires a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, the celebration sees thousands of organisations get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, all they ask is that everyone takes time to listen to children and young people and make a positive change together.

Parents and carers play a crucial role in empowering and supporting their children to use digital technologies responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively. Parental influence, guidance and education have a significant and long-lasting impact on children's safety and wellbeing in the online world. There are plenty of ways to still participate in Safer Internet Day, whether it is ensuring an open dialogue with your children, educating them to use digital technologies safely and positively or acting as digital role models for them.

Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online



[Students - Safer Internet Centre Top Tips](#)

[Parents - Safer Internet Centre Top Tips](#)

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## Celebrating Student Success

### Attendance Weekly Golden Ticket Awards – Data from the final week of the Autumn Term

100% Attendance prize draw - one student from each form group wins a 'Golden Attendance Ticket', allowing them to skip to the front of the Clouds food servery queue on a day of their choice.

## Congratulations to.....



#### Year 7

Rosie Bailey, Erin Barne, Amelia Cope, Amelia Ghinda, Nancy Johnson, Betty Newport, Jennifer Ovod, Rosie Phillips, Mila Ryan, Alex Taylor and Sam Turner



#### Year 8

Harry Appleby, Ervin Dulkerim, Lilly Edwards, Ini Falade, Maddie Hudson, Harriet Johnson, Ramona Killen, Rylee Morris, Lucia-Rose Pearce, Xanthe Rose Tucker, Teyanna Schofield and Max Stevens



#### Year 9

Sydni Bines, Sam Brown, Noah Collins, Ronnie-Jay Dalton-Glass, Zane Douglas, Kayleb Hawke, Alfie Joseph, Hollie Monks, Chloe Nicholas, Maggie Parish, Dale Storkey and Jake Warland



#### Year 10

Alys Davies, Alfie Driscoll, Eva Ganderton, Samuel Jolley, Elanor Matkins, Callum O'Connor, Harry Offord, Ellis Pearson, Annabel Reynolds, Robbie Short and Bethany Ward



#### Year 11

Ella Byford, Malcolm Deans, Rhys Gardiner, Addison Hannon, Charlie Hooley, Vontai Lashai Luna, Cameron Mayers, James McCarron, Jack Moore, Eliza Moseley and Riley Paine

### Weekly Proud Awards

The top students in each year group who attained the most PROUD+ points earned during the final week of last term and also had 100% attendance (listed alphabetically) – Each year group winner collects the top prize of an amazing £5 Amazon voucher.



#### Year 7

Tyler Brooker, Oliver Cole, Seren Eyre, Millie Franklin, Hannah McClinton, Rosie Phillips, Benjamin Siby and Dulcie Westbrook  
**Winner** – Hannah

#### Year 8

**Winner** – Archie Ball

#### Year 9

Holly Campbell, Maisey Dearsley, Reece Goodwin, Rebecca Jinks, Oliver Reader and Luke Roberts  
**Winner** – Rebecca

#### Year 10

Owen Clark, Ivy Keeble, Ty-James Robey, Justyna Rycombel, Keira Stevens and Aydin Yavuz  
**Winner** – Keira

#### Year 11

George Barr, Scarlett Brooks, Ella Byford, Freya Donaghy, Grace Griffiths, Ellie Hall, Logan King, Angel McMahon, Heather Roberts and Sam Whitfield  
**Winner** – Angel