



**HALL MEAD**  
SCHOOL



## *Headteacher's Newsletter*

**24th November 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

On Thursday 16th November, we hosted our Upper School Awards ceremony where we formally recognised the achievements of our current Years 10 and 11 students and also a number of ex Year 11 students.

It was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate a wide range of students and abilities, including those who received special awards in recognition of their kindness, support of others and demonstration of our school values.

It's moments such as these which remind everyone how lucky we are to work with young people, and especially those, who are a part of our school community.

I felt that Mr Bamber, the evening's host, summed it up nicely in his speech when he mentioned how often young people receive a negative press but actually our experience is quite the opposite. We feel so lucky about that.

Watching ex Head Boy Oscar and ex Head Girl Tori hand over the mantle of these positions to Luca and Diya is a stark reminder of just how lucky we are to share the same space as such a thoughtful, talented, funny, warm and considerate group of young people. We continue to be so proud of everyone here.

Thank you to Mrs Hallett, Mrs Carter, Miss Read and Mrs Outram for all their hard work in organising the event.

Thanks again.

**Miss Ducker**  
**Headteacher**



## Mr London—Family for Life Award

Mr London was our special guest at Thursday's Awards Evening but, what he didn't know, was that he was actually going to be the recipient of the most prestigious award: **FAMILY FOR LIFE**.



This special award was first introduced by Mr and Mrs Whittaker, the parents of an ex student from a number of years' ago. Mr and Mrs Whittaker were so delighted with the exceptional and outstanding pastoral care and support that their child received, that they requested to create an award to be awarded on evenings such as this, and named thoughtfully after our school motto 'Family for Life'.

Here is a snippet of my speech from last week's event:

*The recipient of the 'Family for Life' award has dedicated the last fifteen years of their life to developing others, and that includes both staff and students, often at the expense of time with their own family.*

*This person is kind, thoughtful, reflective, funny, considerate, warm and personable.*

*They have a desire, willpower and determination to improve the life chances of the young people in Havering and do this without apology or hesitation.*

*They have led our school community, and others within our Trust, with such confidence and poise, even when confronted with the bleakest of times such as COVID.*

*They have mentored so many of us, some of whom are sat in this room, empowering us to be who we are, believe in who we are, and to do this with the benefit of learning from him.*

*They have established a culture at Hall Mead that I believe is like no other, and one which we are all so proud of today, and one which is his legacy.*

*Mr London, you are our family, as we are yours, and for making us a part of it, we thank you.*



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## Good Luck—Billy Adams

Ex-student Billy Adams is competing this Friday! He visited the school a couple of weeks' ago to meet with Mr Cole, Mr Swan and Mr Morrith to discuss his upcoming fight and to see how everyone is getting on. It was fantastic to see him back in school again!

On behalf of the whole school, we would like to say 'Good luck to Billy' for what will be his professional boxing debut this Friday at York Hall, Bethnal Green!

Everyone at Hall Mead is behind you! Mr Swan, Mr Morrith and Mr Cole will also be attending to show our Hall Mead support.





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**Non-Stop November Update**  
**Mrs Afteni—Senior Assistant Headteacher**

Here are the Non-Stop November results for last week for our ELAT secondary schools:

**Hall Mead**  
**School**

**Brittons**  
**Academy**

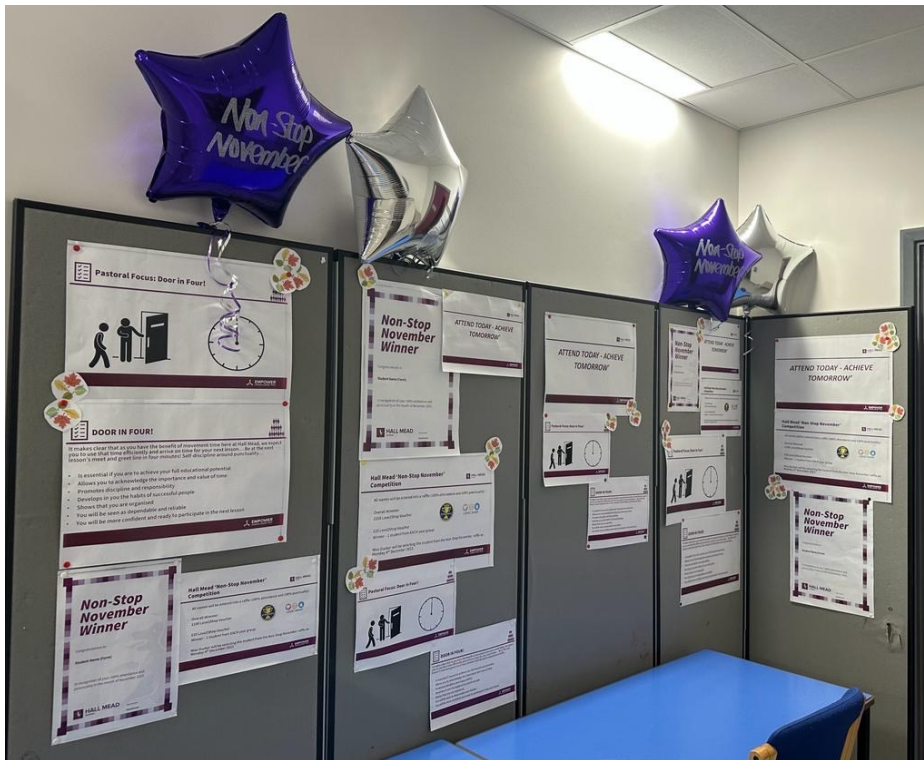
**Bower Park**  
**Academy**

0 lates and 100%  
attendance

**51%**

**50%**

**29%**



**Come on Team Hall Mead!**



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## Reaching for the Stars!

We are so lucky to have Lynsey Izatt working at Hall Mead School as an English Tutor.

Lynsey worked for a number of years at St Martin's School in Brentwood leading their English Faculty and Key Stage 4 programme. After having a family, she decided to explore different teaching options and we were fortunate enough to secure her services at our school.

Lynsey provides specialist and small group intervention work to a number of Year 11 students supporting them in getting ready for their GCSEs. After looking at last year's actual GCSE results, we were delighted to see the impact of Lynsey's work. She added, on average, one whole grade's progress between the PPEs to the actual exams.

In this photograph she is working with three amazing Year 11 students—Yusuf, Simar and Ibrahim. Well done boys! And thank you Lynsey!





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**Waltham**

**Chapman**

**Dickens**

**Talbot**

**Do you know our House history?**

We are really proud of our House history but do you know what our different houses represent?

### How the Houses got their name?



- Dickens House gets its name from the first Headteacher of Hall Mead
- Her name was Ethel Dickens
- The school opened in 1960 with one building and one year group



### How the Houses got their name?

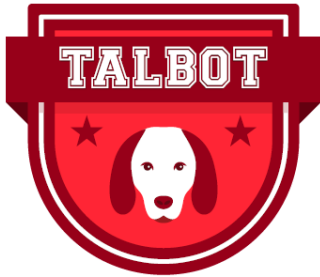


- Chapman gets its name from the first Head Boy at Hall Mead.
- When the school opened, Miss Dickens wanted a Head Boy at the school even though there was just one year group.
- Kevin Chapman was voted as Head Boy by the year group and he was voted each year for 7 years.
- He went on to become a teacher and taught locally for his entire career.





## How the Houses got their name?



- Talbot gets its name from the link to Waltham Abbey.
- Talbot is the name of a now extinct hunting dog.
- This dog also forms the main part of the Hall Mead logo



Waltham

Chapman

Dickens

Talbot

## How the Houses got their name?



- Before Cranham village was developed, the land the school sits on was once part of the hunting grounds for Waltham Abbey.
- Waltham House gets its name from this link to the Abbey and also explains the link to the Talbot dog.



<b>Waltham</b>	<b>Chapman</b>
<b>Dickens</b>	<b>Talbot</b>

**Who our Heads of House?**

Head of Waltham  
Head of Chapman  
Head of Talbot  
Head of Dickens

Mr Morritt  
Mr Shaheed  
Mr Swan  
Miss Kennett

**House System**







## Achievement Point Update

Mr Morritt, Head of Waltham/Head of Year 11, has responsibility for our school Achievement Point system.

Each week, he emails all staff with an update of the top students in each year group who have received the highest number of Achievement Points for that week.

He also gives us a running total of the house and year group figures so we can compete against each other!

This week's highest student winners are:

## Achievement Point Totals



★

Year Group Totals			
Year	AP	BP	Total
7	12521	242	12279
8	11142	663	10479
9	9649	798	8851
10	8343	480	7863
11	4669	605	4064
Overall Conduct Score			43536

House Totals			
House	AP	BP	Total
Chapman	11305	753	10552
Dickens	12725	610	12115
Talbot	10971	671	10300
Waltham	10123	739	9384

★

Year 7
Aela D 7TM
Jack R 7TW

★ **Well Done to our Weekly Winners** ★

Year 8
Albert B 8TB

★

Year 9
George T 9TV

★

Year 10
Stanley F 10TC

Year 11
Katie G 11TMH
Lauren A 11TMH

★





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## House Cross Country

Well done to everyone who took part in the House Cross Country this week!

Here are the House positions:

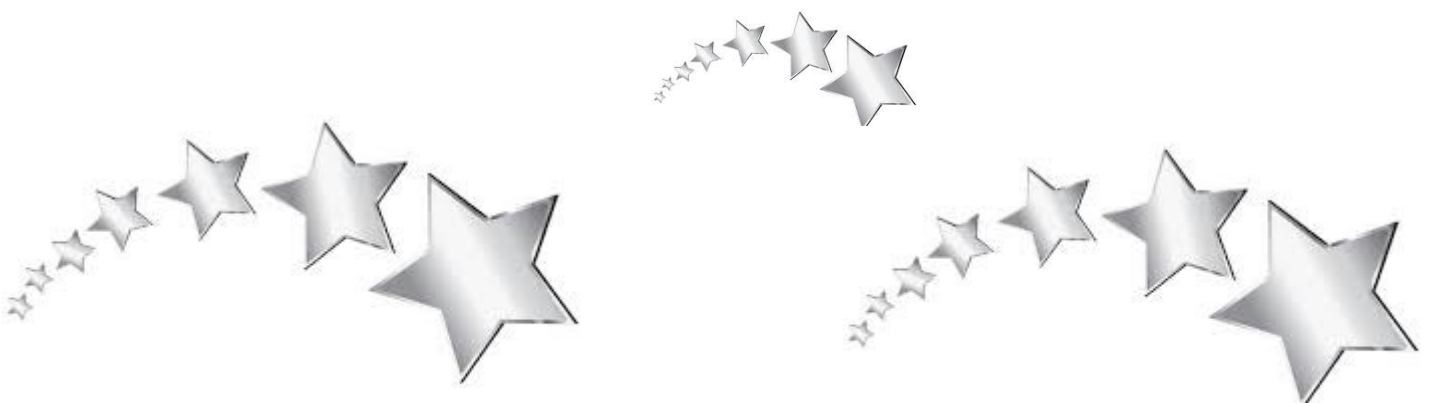


**4th Place - Waltham**

**3rd Place - Chapman**

**2nd Place - Talbot**

**1st Place - Dickens**





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## Sporting Successes!

### Year 7

A HUGE congratulations to Charlotte S in Year 7! Her Level 3 Senior Team came second in the London GFA Team Floor and Vault Competition this weekend.

Well done Charlotte!  
This is an incredible result!



### Year 9

Mr Swan, Head of Year 9 / Teacher of PE, has selected William E for this week's Hornchurch FC Award. Mr Swan said with pride that:



***'William has been the standout player for the school team this year and his performance must be recognised!'***



**1923-2023**



## More Sporting Successes!

**Mr Mor / Mr Cobos, Teachers of Spanish**



On Thursday 16th November, some of the Y7 Hall Mead Girls' Football Team took part in a Year 7 only tournament at Bower Park.

There were six matches scheduled and the Hall Mead girls did a fantastic job. We are all so proud of them and we are looking forward to the next tournament. The results were as follows:

- \* **Match 1: Frances Bardsley 0-0 Hall Mead**
- \* **Match 2: Emerson Park 0-0 Hall Mead**
- \* **Match 3: Hall Mead 0-0 Redden Court(3rd team)**
- \* **Match 4: Hall Mead 0-4 Redden Court (1st team)**
- \* **Match 5: Hall Mead 0-0 Redden Court (2nd team)**
- \* **Match 6: Hall Mead 1-0 Redden Court (4th team)**





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## Years 7 and 8 Netball

**Miss Kennett, Head of Year 7 / Teacher of PE**

Last week, our Years 7 and 8 netball teams saw two impressive wins against Hornchurch High School!

It was the first ever Year 7 game that they had played and they won 33-1!

Year 8 also won with an outstanding score of 30-1!

Well done to everyone who played!





## Special Student Mentions Phoebe N and Poppy G

Whilst on my lunch duty last Wednesday, I was approached by two Year 9 students asking if they could run a bake sale for Children-in-Need. This was a question which was very easy for me to say yes to!

I was so impressed with their efficiency and organisation as within just 45 minutes, they had created their poster, spoken to me again about ingredients and asked me to promote it with our students. They demonstrated such leadership and determination!

On Friday 17th November, Phoebe and Poppy held their own 'Cake Bake Sale' **raising an incredible £112.33!**





## Personalised Learning Progress Award

Mr Rooke, PLC Teacher, is delighted to announce that this week's winner of the 'Personalised Learning Progress Award' goes to Year 10 student Theodore F.

A huge well done to Theodore of his focus and positive attitude to his studies!



## Miss Towey—Director of Maths

Here are this week's Sparx winners!



### Week 11

# Sparx Maths Superstars

Top 3 XP from each year group

Year 7	
Sam J	7CS
Dalia V	7CS
Aamnah A	7WJ

Year 8	
Monique-Rose B	8DS
Szofia B	8TB
Rayyan I	8DM

Year 9	
William L	9WH
Hari P	9WTw
Het P	9WH

Year 10	
Yasmin R	10WMc
Mia S	10TE
Isabella D	10TC

Year 11	
Rares D	11WS
Evie D	11WS
Violet C	11CS



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## **Proud to be Neurodiverse**

### **Mr O'Neill, Assistant Headteacher / SENCO**

We are delighted to announce that Hall Mead School has been selected to be part of the London Neuro Diversity Umbrella Project being run by the ADHD Foundation.

Staff have access to weekly webinars throughout the academic year and face to face training in 2024 and will be hosting parents/carers support sessions. We will be raising awareness and celebrating neurodiversity through assemblies, lessons and will be placing an Umbrella installation in the school.

You can find out more about the project on the below website:

**[Neurodiversity Umbrella Project for Education - ADHD Foundation : ADHD Foundation](#)**



## **Celebrating our Diversity**

All this week, Mr O'Neill has been delivering our year group assemblies on the topic of diversity and asking us the question: How well do we know ourselves?

He has been presenting facts and figures about the number of girls and boys we have in school, how many religions each year group celebrates, how many birthdays were celebrated last week and this week, ethnicity figures, how many students were late arrivals to the school and just how important it is to value all of these differences!

Thank you Mr O'Neill for inspiring us to value and celebrate our differences!





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## Library Celebrations

**Mrs Moore / Mrs O'Brien,**  
**School Librarians**



### Jólabókaflóð (Yule Book Flood)

On Christmas Eve, people in Iceland exchange books and spend the evening reading and drinking hot chocolate or Jólabland – a cocktail of fizzy orange and brown ale.

To celebrate Christmas like the Icelanders, the Library will be hosting a Jólabókaflóð book swap on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December**.

Here's how it works:

Bring in a book that you have finished with - please make sure it is age-appropriate, in good condition and get your parent's permission.

Get the librarian's approval and claim your book swap token.

Visit the Library on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at break time, lunch time or after school to swap your book token for a different book.

Enjoy your new book on Christmas Eve (or before if you really can't wait!) or gift it to someone who will read and love it.





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# Dedicated Dads

HEST and CAMHS would like to invite you to come along and have a chat with other Dads and our teams.

When - Wednesday 6th December 6-7pm

Where - Hornchurch Fire Station, Community Room, 42, North Street, Hornchurch RM11 1SH

Please register your interest

[MHSThav@nelft.nhs.uk](mailto:MHSThav@nelft.nhs.uk)



**NELFT NHS**  
NHS Foundation Trust



## Respecting our Neighbours

Please can we ask that if you are visiting school, that you do not block any of our neighbours' drives.

We have had some reports from our local residents, who live on Marlborough Drive, that they have not been able to leave their homes, as their driveway has been blocked.

Thank you, in advance, for your support with this and for not parking across anyone's drive.