



## *Headteacher's Newsletter*

**8th December 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week we welcomed Mr Morris back into school to speak with students about their experience of learning and to visit lots of lessons, across a range of different subjects.

Mr Morris, who is now an ELAT Trust Improvement Officer, since retiring as Headteacher from Ardleigh Green Primary School, was excited to experience life in a secondary school for two days. He said how impressed he was with our students and the lessons he observed.

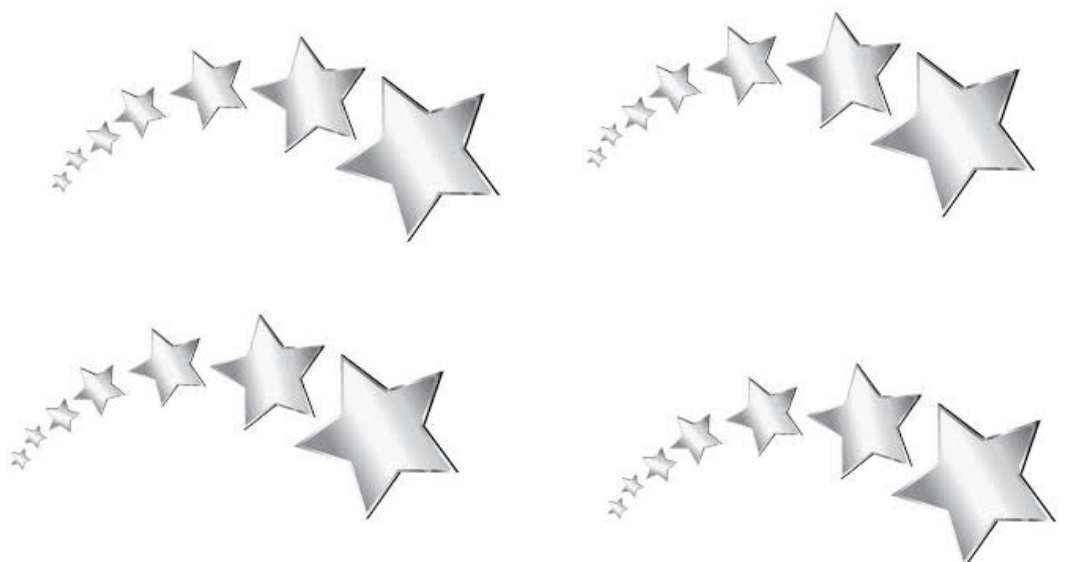
At the end of the two days, he even said that he wouldn't mind a job at Hall Mead!

As a newly appointed Headteacher, I feel that it is important to continuously reflect upon the work we are doing to ensure that we are delivering consistently to all students an outstanding education and, opportunities both inside and outside the classroom.

Mr Morris has certainly helped us to do that this week, and the feedback and advice he has given us will continue our dedication and focus to **'tweak to transform'** what we do here at Hall Mead.

Thanks again.

**Miss Ducker**  
**Headteacher**





## **Hall Mead Says Goodbye!**

Hall Mead is sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Luxmana at Christmas.

Mrs Luxmana has worked at Hall Mead since 2019 and, over the course of her time here, has supported the Maths Team in their curriculum development.

We would like to wish Mrs Luxmana every success at her new school and the staff will be saying a formal goodbye to her on our last school day.

Mrs Luxmana has shared the following:

***Goodbye and best wishes to you all.***

***I am very sad to let you know that I will be leaving Hall Mead School at the end of this term.***

***I have had the opportunity to meet and work with some wonderful students, who have always demonstrated the Hall Mead values.***

***I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to have been part of this school community; there truly is a feeling of family for life here.***

***Thank you to all students, teachers and support staff for making my time at Hall Mead memorable.***

***I wish you all every success in your future.***

***Mrs Luxmana***



End of Term Arrangements



<b>Monday 18th December Year 11</b>	<b>Christmas Awards Assembly</b> 1.10pm— 2.10pm
<b>Year 10</b>	2.15pm— 3.15pm

**Lesson Christmas Awards Assembly Christmas Form Party Dismissal**

<b>Tuesday 19th December</b>				
<b>Year 11</b>	Period 1— normal lesson		10.10am— 11.10am	From 11.30am
<b>Year 10</b>	Period 1— normal lesson		10.10am— 11.10am	From 11.30am
<b>Year 9</b>		9.05am— 10.05am	10.10am— 11.10am	12pm
<b>Year 8</b>	Period 1— normal lesson	10.10am— 11.10am	11.25am— 12.15pm	12.10pm
<b>Year 7</b>	Period 1— normal lesson	11.25am — 12.25pm	10.10am— 11.10am	12.25pm onwards



**Christmas has arrived at Hall Mead!**



*Thank you to Mrs Carter and Frankie DF in Year 7 for setting up the Christmas Tree outside my office!*

*It looks absolutely beautiful!*

*Everyone is beginning to feel very Christmassy!*





## Our Main Hall Christmas Tree



On Friday 1st December, Mrs Carter, Ms Abbott, Year 7 students Frankie DF, Jorja McG, Year 9 students Anya and Isla assembled our Christmas Tree for the Main Hall!

I was so impressed with the students' kindness in offering to give up their time to complete this task.

We decided to decorate it in the Hall Mead colours of purple and white (silver) to compliment our school logo.

Ms Abbott even took time out of her own weekend to find purple baubles for the tree! Thank you Ms Abbott for going above and beyond to ensure that the tree had purple on it.

Also, thank you to Mrs Carter for assembling two Christmas Trees in two days!

## DT and Art Combine Forces!

Director of Faculty Mrs Stubbings and Head of Art Mrs Lovelock, combined forces this week to create decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival entry.

They decided upon the theme of Willy Wonka for the tree and spent Friday 1st December decorating it.

To make this happen, DT and Art Clubs joined forces.

In DT students used Techsoft 2D Design to draw baubles that were then laser cut for the tree in the theme of Charlie and the chocolate factory. Art students then painted them and made the top hat for the tree topper.

If you would like to visit Upminster Methodist Church to see our tree, you will be able to do so on Sunday 10th December!

**Please vote for us too!**




**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL**

VISIT OUR CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL  
Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December until  
Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023

CHRISTMAS MARKET  
ON SATURDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> DECEMBER 2023  
10-3pm  
CHARITY STALLS,  
CHRISTMAS GIFTS, CRAFTS  
AND REFRESHMENTS

FESTIVAL OPENING TIMES  
Weekdays 2pm-6pm  
Saturdays 10am-4pm  
Sundays 12pm-4pm  
FREE ENTRY

DONATIONS FOR ST FRANCIS HOSPICE

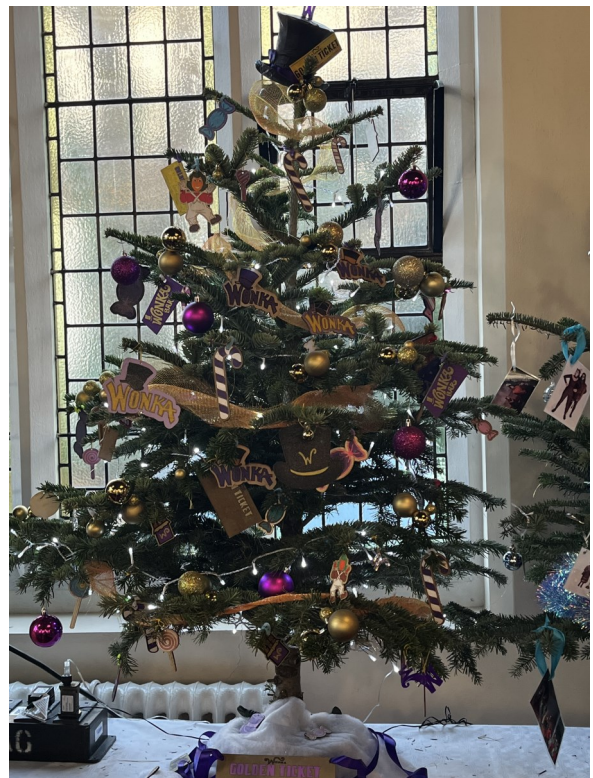
UPMINSTER METHODIST CHURCH  
HALL LANE, RM14 1AE





# HALL MEAD

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### Avon Road Christmas Tree

Mrs Hallett and Mr Wells took a group of Year 11 Prefects to decorate the Christmas Tree on Avon Road last week. They were asked to do so by Counsellor Gillian Ford as part of a community outreach project and to add some sparkle to Avon Road.

Mr Wells certainly provided some entertainment to the local community as he navigated 'climbing' the tree to access the higher limbs!

We are glad you made it safely down Mr Wells! Phew!







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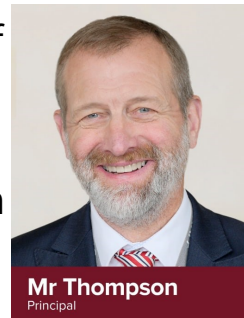
## Non-Stop November Update

**Mrs Afteni—Senior Assistant Headteacher**

**Mrs Afteni is delighted to reveal that the final results are in and Hall Mead won by (just)1%!**

Mr Will Thompson, Headteacher at Brittons, demanded a recount of the scores!

But...after a careful recount of the data, we are happy to confirm that **Hall Mead is the Non-Stop November ELAT Winner!**



**Certificates and vouchers be awarded to those lucky winning students in the Christmas assemblies!**

Hall Mead  
School

Brittons  
Academy

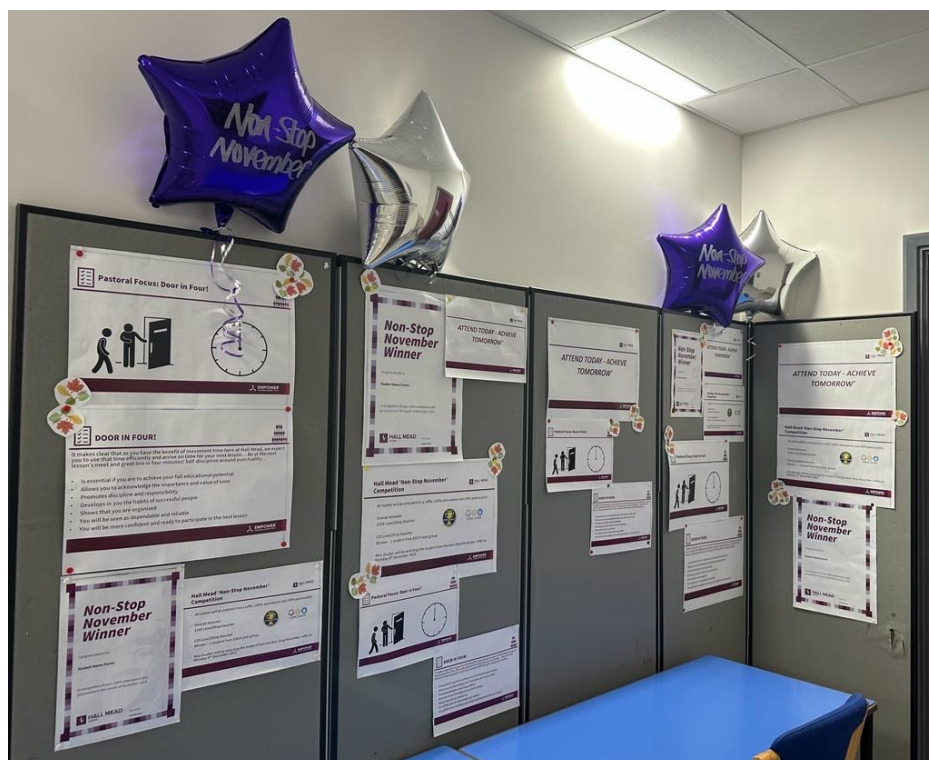
Bower Park  
Academy

0 lates and 100%  
attendance

**36%**

**35%**

**18%**





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**Mrs Afteni—Senior Assistant Headteacher**

## **Attendance Autumn Update**

It can be difficult to know if you should send your child into school when they are unwell. The link below provides parents/carers with some general advice on when to keep your child home from school. This is particularly important as we are approaching the winter months.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

One day's absence from school equates to 5 hours of lost lesson time plus important time socialising with peers. It is difficult for students to find this time to catch up on lost learning.

As we approach the end of the Autumn term it is important for schools to have a strong end to a term. The final days of term are spent consolidating learning from the week or term but also for social connections and creating a sense of belonging and community within school.

We encourage parents and carers to contact us at school if you have any concerns around your child's attendance. We recognise the importance of positive school attendance on attainment and achievement and students' fulfilling future aspirations that they have. We want to support them with their goals.

Please contact Mrs Afteni, [nafteni@elatschools.co.uk](mailto:nafteni@elatschools.co.uk) or Mrs Roberts, [jroberts@elatschools.co.uk](mailto:jroberts@elatschools.co.uk) if you have any questions or concerns.



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## Fancy Learning Mandarin?

Mr Garcia is launching his Mandarin Club which will run every Tuesday in AS1 at 3.30pm.



If your child is interesting in attending, please ask them to see Mr Garcia about this!

Thank you to Mr Garcia for providing this excellent opportunity. 谢谢





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## Mr Wells' Hall Mead's Christmas Carol Concert 2023

Everyone is warmly invited to attend Hall Mead's Christmas Carol Concert on Wednesday 13th December from 6-7pm.

Come and join us to sing a carol or two, listen to a Christmas reading and watch our wonderful students sing and play an instrument.

The concert is free but to book your place, please email: [rwells@elatschools.co.uk](mailto:rwells@elatschools.co.uk) with your name and how many seats you require.

This will be a great way to start your Christmas celebrations!





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## Unsung Heroes—James Hughes

This week, I would like to formally recognise the work of James Hughes.

James is our Trust Finance Officer, allocated to Hall Mead, to ensure that our financial systems, like Scopay, are running effectively.



James completes lots of work, most of which is behind the scenes and therefore goes unnoticed by our students and even staff, placing trips on the system, managing any donations we receive, processing our orders etc.

Without his excellent support, we wouldn't be able to run as efficiently as a school.

Thank you James for all your hard work and dedication to ensuring the smooth operation of our school finance systems.



## Congratulation to Mrs Mitchell, LSA

I was delighted to learn that Mrs Mitchell has become a grandparent!



Knowing what I know about Mrs Mitchell and what a kind and warm person she is, I am confident that she will fully embrace her new role!

Enjoy every moment Mrs Mitchell—family is the most important thing.

***#familyforlife***



## Christmas Jumper Day

Mrs Hallett, Assistant Headteacher

### **Christmas Jumper Day 2023** **Friday December 15<sup>th</sup> 2023**



- This Christmas we are raising money for Save the Children, helping those facing serious issues such as war, hunger and poverty.
- On the same day as our Christmas themed Lunch you are invited to add a little festive flair to your uniform - a festive jumper, accessories or even some tinsel!
- Voluntary donation of £2.00 payable via Scopay.
- The Form group that donates the most items to the food bank collection will have an early lunch at midday.



## Need cost of living support and advice?

Please visit: [Financial help and advice | The London Borough Of Havering](#)

## Financial help and advice



## Cost of Living Support





## Achievement Point Update

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

This week's highest student AP winners are:

## Achievement Point Totals



★

Year Group Totals			
Year	AP	BP	Total
7	15533	314	15219
8	13651	814	12837
9	11753	1025	10728
10	9651	587	9064
11	5892	768	5124
<b>Overall Conduct Score</b>			52972

House Totals			
House	AP	BP	Total
Chapman	13857	938	12919
Dickens	15523	786	14737
Talbot	13082	816	12266
Waltham	12523	949	11574

★

★

Year 7
Amara I 7DL
Romeo M 7CS
Ronnie P 7DR

## Well Done to our Weekly Winners

★

Year 8
Victoria Z 8TS

★

Year 9
Francesca R 9DS

★

Year 10
James K 10TE
Oliver J 10TC
Stefan R 10DG

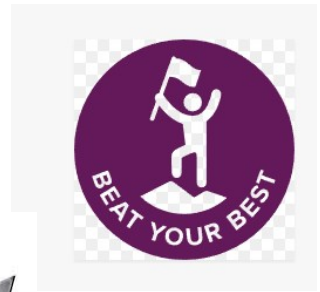
★

Year 11
George R 11CC





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## Budding Writing Stars of the Future

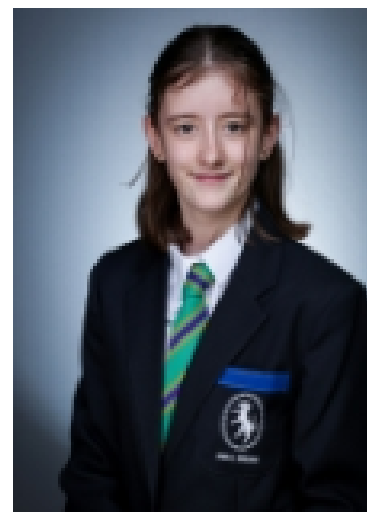
A few weeks' ago, I was approached by two Year 9 students Ava K and Andrea E, who are members of Mr Hart's Journalism Club, asking if they could interview me in preparation for writing an article about me being Hall Mead's new Headteacher.

I was happy to accept their proposal and we spent some time together on Friday afternoon.

I was impressed with their level of preparation for the interview as they had clearly spent some time devising a range of probing questions for me. They made me feel very comfortable and at ease, with their warm interview style, and I was happy to help their project in any way I could.

In fact, I spent my weekend reflecting on some of their questions, such as why I wanted to be a Headteacher, what hopes I have for Hall Mead and why I enjoy my job.

I am super excited to read their article when they publish it! Thank you girls and well done.







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**Sporting Successes**  
**Mr Sammons—2 I/C PE**



Our Year 8 cricket team finished 3rd in the Essex indoor cricket competition.

Well done boys!



**Hornchurch FC Ticket Award**

This week’s Hornchurch FC match ticket goes to Year 7 student Henry B in recognition for his outstanding attitude towards PE since he started in September.

He has also shown an excellent attitude towards school football after not making the team for the first game of the season. Great sportsmanship Henry!



**1923-2023**





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## Community Work—Food Bank Collection

- For the next 2 weeks, we are collecting for Harold Hill and Thurrock Food-banks
- We are asking students to please bring in any store cupboard items
- ANY contributions will really make a difference.
- Let's help our community to not go hungry this Christmas!
- The House with the highest number of items will have points added towards the House Cup.
- **The winning form will be rewarded with an early entry to lunch on Friday 15th December**

Let's beat our Harvest collection and show kindness to our local community!




**1000 ACTS OF KINDNESS**

**WE NEED YOUR CUPBOARD ITEMS**

**27th Nov - 14th Dec**



*We believe we share the responsibility to support one another in our community*




**HAROLD HILL  
FOODBANK  
HELPING LOCAL  
PEOPLE IN  
CRISIS**

*We are collecting!*

**Thank you to Grosvenor Lawn Tennis Club for supporting our collection too!**



**It's Golden Ticket Time**

Mrs Hallett's lucky winners so far include:

Student	Year	Burn Brighter	Value Difference	Be Kind	Beat Your Best
Valentine O	7				✓
Emilio JS	8	✓			
Branden S	8			✓	
Evie Da	7				✓
Violet C	11				✓
Joshua P	8		✓		
Ruby S	10				
Ollie J	8				✓
Amalie P	10				✓
Louis G	10				✓
Kasey PB	10			✓	
Charlie H	11	✓			
George A	11	✓			
Jake F	9			✓	
Kasey PB	10				✓
Ronnie McN	10	✓		✓	
Poppy H	7		✓	✓	
Eddie H	8	✓			
Grace O	11				✓
Oscar S	11	✓			
Lewis W	7	✓			
Georgina H	11			✓	





## Personalised Learning Progress Award

This week, Mr Rooke is awarding Omer with the 'Personalised Learning Progress Award'!

Omer has worked extremely hard this week in his lessons and has been showing kindness throughout the week to his peers.

Well done Omer!



**Mr Rooke**



## Miss Towey—Director of Maths

Here are this week's Sparx winners!



**Miss Towey**



Week 14		Sparx Maths Superstars		Top 3 XP from each year group for this week	
<b>Year 7</b>		<b>Year 8</b>		<b>Year 9</b>	
Ruby B	7DL	Jovita DS	8TS	William L	9WH
Joel L	7TW	Szofia B	8TB	Kishan P	9CL
Bella M	7DL	Rayyan I	8DM	Dylan E	9TL
<b>Year 10</b>		<b>Year 11</b>			
Yasmin R	10WMC	Evie D	11WS		
Arishnan A	10CS	Hazel A	11WBR		
Esther J	10WMC	Callum W	11CC		



## **Sporting Successes—Mr Sammons, 2 I/C PE**

### **Sports Leaders— Havering Primary School Indoor Athletics Competition**



Mr Sammons shared with me that:

***“The Havering Sports Collective lead wanted me to pass on how amazing our Year 9 Sports’ Leaders students were.***

She went onto say:



***“...I have had a number of primary school teachers and parents commenting to me on how supportive the students were of the primary school students taking part. We couldn’t have organised the day without them.”***





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**Mrs Capon**

## **Special Mentions—Mrs Capon, Teacher of English**

I was over the moon to receive the following email on Monday from Mrs Capon about Ms Cekaj, LSA:

**I would like to sing the praises of Ms Cekaj, who has gone above and beyond to support a member of my form since the beginning of term.**

**She has been unwavering with her support and is an effective voice for the this student as he develops his own.**

**Ms Cekaj's approach has had a transformative effect on his outlook this year; he is more positive, engages in his lessons more, is happier and in school more often too. Her tenacity and can-do spirit has transmitted to the student and has made a positive impact on many of the other children too.**

**She goes above and beyond every day and is far too modest to reveal how much she truly does.**

**Too often people say teaching is a "thankless job" so I would like to go on record and thank her formally and share her work with you.**

**I would also like to formally request to have Jenny attached to our form next year for continuity.**

**She is part of the form 'family' now and we should very much like to keep her.**

On behalf of the Senior Leadership Team, thank you to Mrs Capon for writing such a thoughtful email and to Ms Cekaj for her amazing work.



**Ms Cekaj**





## Year 11—Results' Assembly Mr Leslie, Assistant Headteacher

Monday 4th December was a big day for our Year 11s as they received, in a formal assembly, the results from their second set of PPEs.

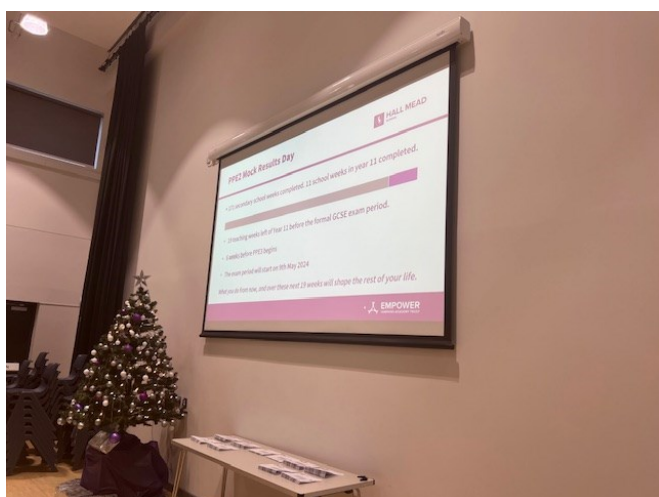
Mr Leslie delivered the assembly to the year group highlighting how many weeks are left until their actual exams begin, what revision support is on offer and what they need to be thinking about as they approach the GCSE exam season.

For some students, this was a difficult morning and served as a reminder of how much work there is to do.

For others, it confirmed that their hard work is paying off and for them to continuing to do what they are doing.

Being a parent of a Year 11 student can also be very difficult as you support them navigating the end of their secondary schooling but we are here to help. Please reachout if you need support in supporting your child be successful in their exams.

Please don't forget that we have setup a page especially on our school website which is loaded with revision ideas and strategies: [Year 11 – Hall Mead School](#)





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**THANK  
YOU**

**Hall Mead School**

for raising a fantastic

**£112.33**

The money you have raised will be used to help change the lives of children and young people facing disadvantage in communities across the UK.

**B B C**  
**CHILDREN  
IN NEED**

BBC Children in Need has not verified the above fundraising. This is not a receipt.  
© BBC 2007 Reg. charity England & Wales no. 802052 and Scotland no. SC039557.





## *Parents & Carers Support Group*



### **SUPPORT**

1

Bringing together parents & carers affected by their children's drug or alcohol use to support each other through conversation and sharing experiences

2

### **SPACE**

Would you like to talk to other parents and carers who understand and won't judge, and learn more about substance misuse?

3

### **WHEN**

11th January to 15th February 2024 (6 weeks). Every Thursday 5:45pm-6:45pm

4

### **WHERE**

36 High Street, Romford, RM1 1HR

5

### **CONTACT US**

Please contact Rebecca or Hannah on [rebecca.wood@cgl.org.uk](mailto:rebecca.wood@cgl.org.uk) 07909 097621 or [hannah.douch@cgl.org.uk](mailto:hannah.douch@cgl.org.uk) to book your space