



**2nd February 2024**

## *Headteacher's Newsletter*

Dear Parents/Carers,

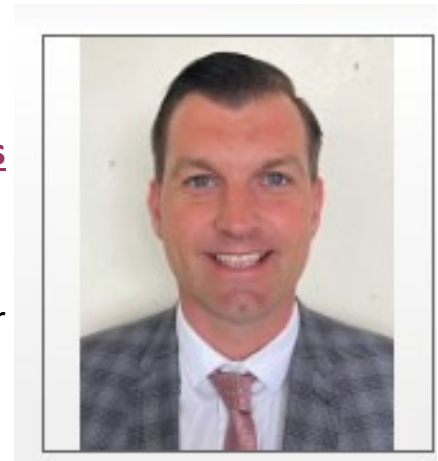
This week, we were delighted to have been celebrated by the '**Department of Education**' in their blog discussing how, as a school, we made effective use of the additional funding we received last year to support our ex-Year 11 students for their exams.

Assistant Headteacher, Mr Leslie, was interviewed for the piece and was happy to share our successes.

If you would like to read the blog, you can find it here at:

[Use the National Tutoring Programme to prepare your pupils for exams - Teaching \(blog.gov.uk\)](#)

I would like to give Mr Leslie a special mention and thanks for all of his excellent work in this area.



Mr Leslie goes above and beyond to create learning opportunities for our Year 11 students to ensure that they are provided with additional support beyond the classroom.

I wanted to wish Year 11s the best of luck for their next round of PPEs. Once they finish their afternoon exam, they will be able to go home and prepare for the next day. If your child does not have an exam, they will be able to leave at the end of period 4. Please also ensure your child brings revision materials with them so they can revise at school during the study periods we have created for them in-between their exams.

Thank you for your support. Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Thanks again.

**Miss Ducker**



## Important Dates

Just a reminder of the upcoming events for next week:

- Monday 5th—Friday 9th February 2024—House Table Tennis
- Monday 5th February— Year 11 PPE3 starts
- Wednesday 7th February—Years 7 and 8 reports published
- Friday 9th February—School Production, Tech Rehearsal
- Saturday 10th February—Full Dress Rehearsal—Production



***Good luck to our Year 11 students as they begin another round of PPEs!***





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## **Safety in the Local Community**

### **Mrs Fanning, Senior Assistant Headteacher**

Just for your awareness, we have shared with our local policing team that students have reported of an individual hanging around the Deyncourt Gardens alley area.

When this happened last term, the police ensured a presence there during school times so we hope by reporting it this will be repeated.

Please talk to your child about this and remind them of choosing the safest route and/or walking with friends, particularly while it is still getting dark early.

## **Attendance / Reporting Absence**

### **Mrs Afteni, Senior Assistant Headteacher**

Just a reminder that if your child is absent from school that you must let us know as if we haven't received any communication regarding an absence by 11am, we will be conducting a home visit to ensure that we complaint with our safeguarding procedures.

Our school office hours are 8am—4.30pm.

**Contact details are:**

**01708225684**

**HMS-Reception@elatschools.co.uk**

**HMS-absence@elatschools.co.uk**



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**Mrs Afteni, Senior Assistant Headteacher**

## **Mind of the Student**

Following on with our Mental Health Awareness week, the school have organised a workshop for each year group on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February led by the charity, 'Mind of the Student'. The workshop will provide tips and strategies to help manage stress and anxiety in young people.

Year 7-11 will receive information on topics relating to anxiety, depression and confidentiality. In addition, Year 7 – 9 will receive details around the use of social media and how the use of social media impacts the mind. Year 10 and 11 will receive information on exam stress and how to manage revision.

Students will be made aware of the details in our SMSC programme and the workshops will be based in the hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> February at the following times:

**Period 1 – Year 7**

**Period 2 – Year 10**

**Period 3 – Year 11**

**Period 4 – Year 9**

**Period 5 – Year 10**

Mrs Afteni hopes that the sessions prove useful to your child and provide them with strategies to help manage their day to day lives.

Raising awareness and the importance of positive mental health and well-being is at the forefront of the work that we do here at Hall Mead. With this in mind, the school signed up to receive a live broadcast delivered by Roman Kemp. It is a nationwide mental health school broadcast.

Roman Kemp will be joined by other famous faces to offer support and signpost to help and empower young people to take charge of their mental health. The link will be shared with students in their SMSC work in forms and parents are welcome to access the resource and share at home.

[Here4You; A short film hosted by Roman Kemp that tackles young people's mental health \(youtube.com\)](#)



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**Year 10 Football, Mr Sammons, 2 I/C PE**

### **B Team**

This match was the first time ever representing the school for many of these students photographed below!

It was an excellent game against Brittons with Hall Mead coming out 2-1 winners.

Man of the Match going to Jack M and a special mention must also go to Team Manager, Captain and goal scorer Joe W!





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## **VR History Workshops**

### **Miss Savage, Head of History**

Miss Savage, Head of History, approached me this week to share that some students in 9I had written some articles about the VR workshops which they attended last week. I was very excited to read them and see what students felt about the experience!

She told students that the best ones would be selected for this week's newsletter so I am delighted to share these with you...

***“This week, Year 9 participated in a History VR Workshop about World War I.***

***We particularly learnt about the hygiene in the trenches, their morning routines and what happened when soldiers fought in the trenches. This was shown through the VR headset by Sergeant Richard Parsons. We also learnt about the way they structured the trenches and the order they went in. For example, the support line at the back, the reserve line in the middle and the front line.***

***He showed us his uniform in depth and also the ammunition, bayonet and rifle (which was deactivated!). He taught us about the oil cans they used to store water, and the duckboards they used to protect their feet from trench foot.***

***Overall, it was a great experience to try out the VR headsets and to imagine yourself in World War I!”***



**Holly E**



## **VR History Workshops**

### **Miss Savage, Head of History**

“... The workshop was about World War I and mainly focussed on the Western Front. Sergeant Richard took our session and was really informative about the trenches. With the VR headsets they are easy to apply and immersed you in the trenches. He showed us the trenches are zig zag lines so if they got bombed everyone wouldn't blow up!”

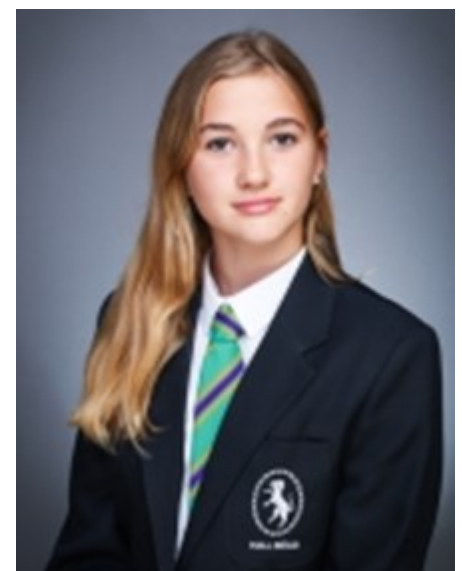
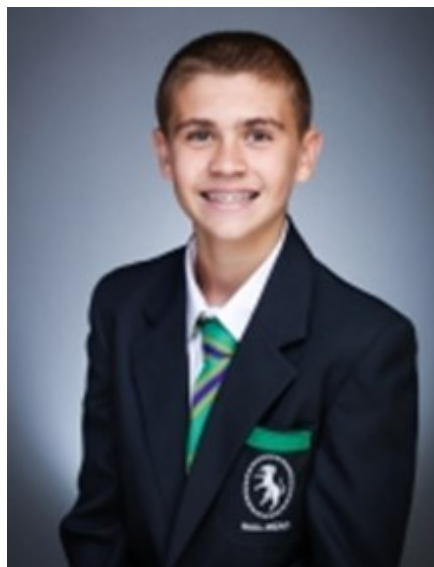
Oliver G

“... Richie brought in props that were used in the First World War. They included a Lee Enfield Rifle, water can, map of the trenches, ammunition and outfits that the soldiers had to wear during the war. On the VR headsets we watched videos on what the trenches looked like in person. In the trenches there was the parapet (the top of the trench) where the sandbags were, and the step they stood on to fire or sat on to take a breath is called the firestep.”

George C

“...We also found out about the struggles and illnesses you may develop in the trench such as illness from rats, flies and poor hygiene. Sergeant Richard taught us about how body lice can lay eggs in your clothes and multiply to the extent of having to burn them off with a candle to your sleeve. The headset was very enjoyable and gave an accurate representation of what the trenches were like. It was really realistic and made you feel like you were really there since you can look around and see your surroundings.”

Isabelle P





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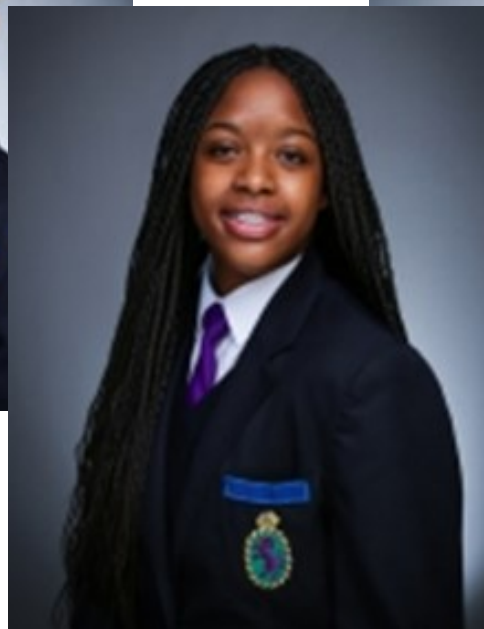
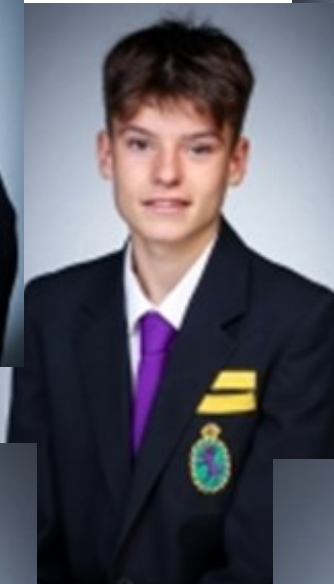
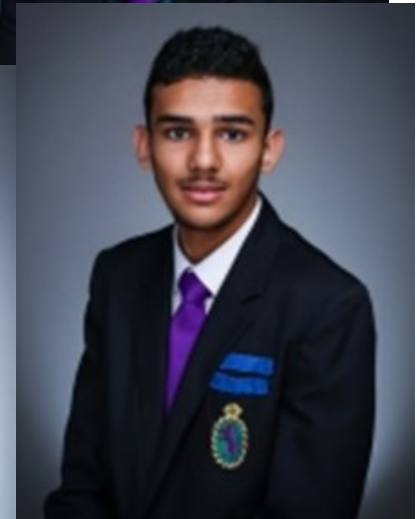
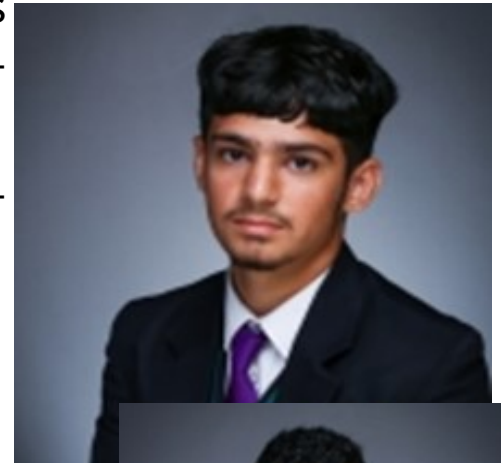
Soares DS	Maths
Najee M	Maths
Alife M	Maths
Seb W	Maths
Delsi S	English
Jakub B	English
Niamh S	English
Taliyah J	English
Harnick M	English

## Celebrating Year 11 Success

### Mr Leslie, Assistant Headteacher

Mr Leslie would like to celebrate the following students for being this week's 100% attendees for the English and maths tuition which is being offered online.

Well done to these students for investing additional time into their studies and revision.







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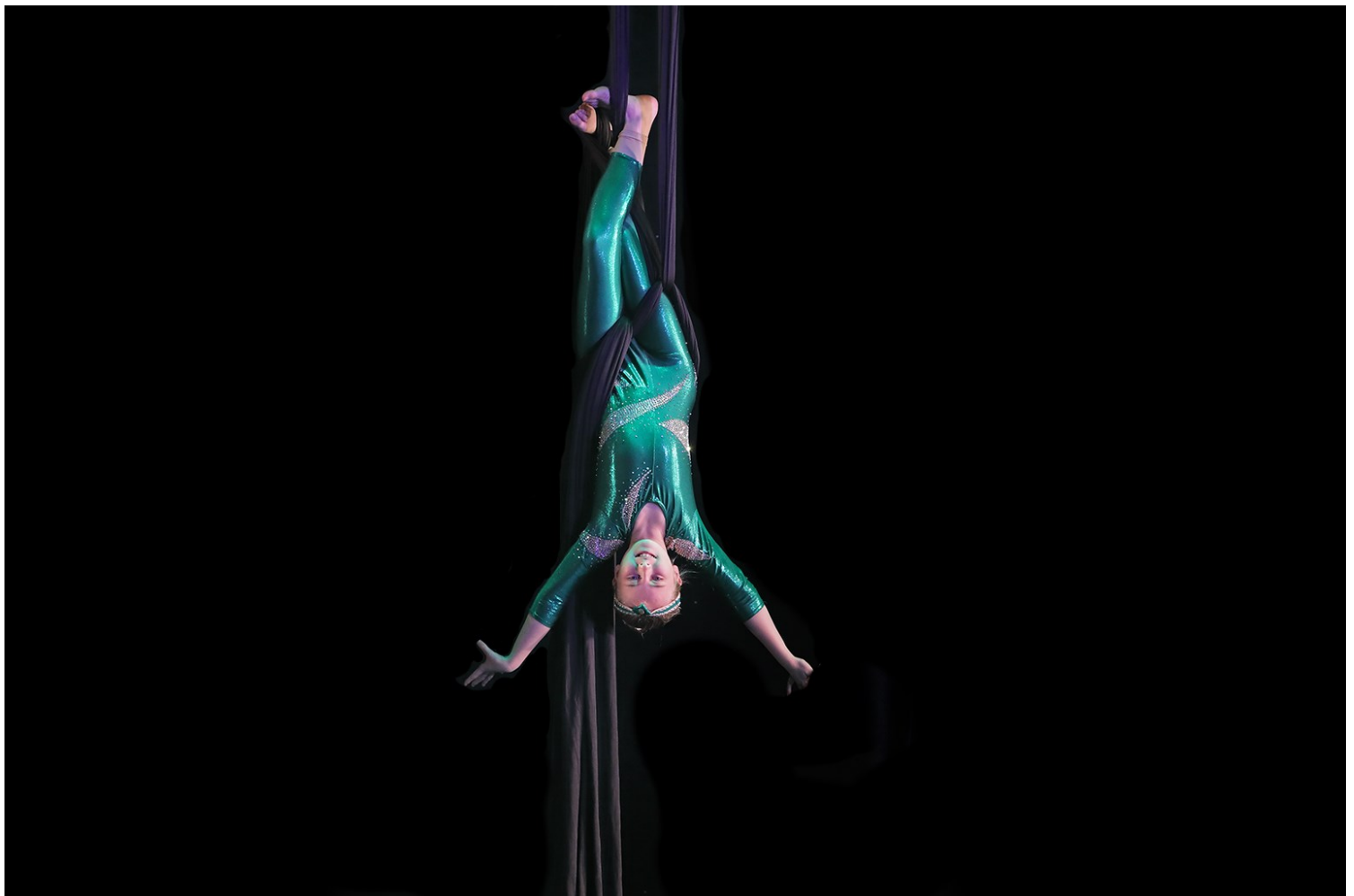


## **Celebrating Student Successes**

We would like to celebrate Katie H from 7WL on her performance at Chelmsford Theatre.

Katie has been training with 'Little Stars Circus' since she was 4 years' old undertaking aerial gymnastics. The group recently held their end of year celebration themed on the Wizard of Oz.

Katie, we all think you are very brave! Keep up the amazing work and dedication!





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## Student Successes

We are over the moon to celebrate the successes of Havering at the London Youth Games!

Year 7 Sam J joined an amazing team of gymnasts from around the borough to compete on Sunday 28 January 2024 contributing to Havering winning gold for Trampolining.

Well done to the Havering Hurricanes on their impressive result!

Here is a picture of Sam holding the team trophy and in mid flight!

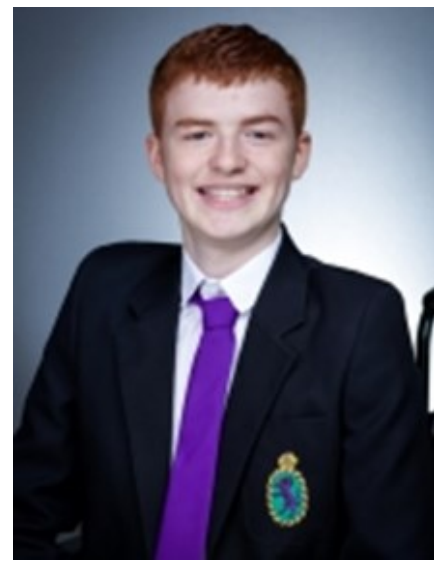




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## Student Successes

This week's 'Personalised Learning Award' goes to Oscar!



Oscar has been beating his best in all his lessons, showing great teamwork in PE and is always determined to apply himself in any sport.

Well done Oscar! You are a superstar!

## Form Success! 11WBR

11WBR got to celebrate their successes this week with a special delivery from the local bakery!

Mrs Bannister & Mrs Ruschova wanted them to know how proud they are of them for being so supportive of each other in the form.

They really embody the Family for Life ideal and they are all amazing!

Well done 11WBR!





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## Student Act of Kindness



Mr Clark would like to nominate Kitti for 'An Act of Kindness' special mention.



He shared the following with me:

***“I have been talking with Kitti B, from 10CS, this week who has mentioned, what I believe, is an ‘Act of Kindness’***

***Kitti has always been known within her family for having the longest hair. In fact, she has had a competition with her sisters about the length of her hair!***

***However, two weeks’ ago, Kitti decided to have it cut to a more manageable length and had 30cm taken off. But instead of just wasting that hair, she donated it to a really worthwhile cause.***

***She has given her hair to the ‘Little Princess Trust’. This organisation makes wigs or hair pieces for children undergoing hospital treatment which means that they lose their own hair.***

***Well done Kitti—this is a really worthwhile cause to donate to.”***



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## Arcadia Club

**Mrs Afteni, Senior Assistant Headteacher**

Mrs Afteni and Mrs Harradine run our school Arcadia Club, a club which is focused on student wellbeing. This week, the students created beautiful posters promoting this and were very excited to use water colours to do so.



Have a look at what they have produced!

### **Another Blue Peter Badge Winner!**

Katie has successfully gained her Blue Peter Badge too!

What a fantastic achievement and I had the pleasure of speaking to her about it.





## Sparx Winners—Miss Towey, Director of Maths

Week 22		Sparx Maths Superstars		Top 3 XP from each year group for this week	
Year 7		Dalia V	7DC		
Oliver C	7TW				
Jelsey L	7TM				
Year 8		Sami U	8WB		
Andrew S	8DS				
Millie B	8DS				
Year 9		Mikhail GT	9CL		
Elson D	9CN				
Aleks G	9TL				
Year 10		Christopher G	10DG		
Yasmin R	10WMC				
Zaki C	10OB				
Year 11		Amelia F	11CS		
Connie A	11DEM				
Micky S	11TJ				

## Achievement Points—Mr Morrith, Head of Year 11 / Head of Waltham House

### Achievement Point Totals



Year Group Totals			
Year	AP	BP	Total
7	21079	455	20624
8	19233	1035	18198
9	14873	1341	13532
10	12143	862	11281
11	7554	1140	6414
Overall Conduct Score			70049

House Totals			
House	AP	BP	Total
Chapman	18848	1318	17530
Dickens	20240	1087	19153
Talbot	17033	1114	15919
Waltham	16670	1330	15340

Year 7
Dylan W 7WL

### Well Done to our Weekly Winners

Year 8
Albie B 8TB
Bella S 8DM
Mylee LD 8TB

Year 9
Francesca N 9WH

Year 10
Aimee K 10TE
Alex L 10WMC

Year 11
Annalise D 11WBR
Oliver S 11DEM
Simar U 11CS



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## **Miss Garred, Head of Drama** **'Annie' Production**

Our school production of Annie, takes place at the following times:



- ⇒ Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February at 4.00pm
- ⇒ Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm
- ⇒ Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm



**To purchase your tickets, please visit:**

**Hall Mead School event tickets from TicketSource.**



***Yuki is Annie!***





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**Need a Holiday?**

**Have a look at Shirley Tours!**

**MAY 2024; WED 8<sup>TH</sup> TO SUN 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024 – BOURNEMOUTH SHORT BREAK**

Half Board break by coach, local pick ups with entertainment/trips out include Winchester enroute, Salisbury on Market Day with New Forest scenic drive with stop at Lyndhurst, cruise from Poole to Swanage with return steam railway ride to Corfe Castle.

Charge for Cruise/Railway trip.

Last Few twin rooms left. £330 per person, plus £35 Boat/Steam railway trip.

**THURSDAY, 31<sup>ST</sup> OCT 2024; TREASURES OF BURGUNDY + PROVENCE RIVER CRUISE;**

Sail on rivers Rhone + Saone, South of France. 7 Nights, includes 5 excursions, free wine, beer, soft drinks at meals, WIFI, gratuities. Fly from Heathrow, coach/minibus optional extra to airport. Ship holds 140 passengers.

Now booking. **Leaflet/cabin prices on request.**

**Further day trips will be added asap**

**For more details, please contact:**

**Email:** [shirley@shirleytours.co.uk](mailto:shirley@shirleytours.co.uk)

**Website:** [www.shirleytours.co.uk](http://www.shirleytours.co.uk)







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## Half-Term Ideas!



**Essex Fire Museum Open Days**  
**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024**  
**(10.30am to 4.00pm)**



Visits must be pre-booked via:  
[museum@essex-fire.gov.uk](mailto:museum@essex-fire.gov.uk)

Address: Essex Fire Museum, Grays Fire station,  
Hogg Lane, Grays, RM17 5QS



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*Gidea Park*  
LAWN TENNIS CLUB LTD

LIMITED  
SPACES AVAILABLE

# HALF TERM JUNIOR TENNIS CAMPS

WEDNESDAY 21st FEBRUARY  
FRIDAY 23rd FEBRUARY

9.30am - 12.30pm • AGES 4-12yrs\*

Arrive at 9.15am for registration



PLEASE BRING  
A SNACKBOX  
& DRINK

Fun tennis camps, learning basic skills & co-ordination,  
rally drills and lots of games for all abilities.

\*Children will be split into their age groups.

**£20 member £22 non member (per camp)**

(Please make payment on the day)

To confirm your place, please contact

[headcoach.gpltc@gmail.com](mailto:headcoach.gpltc@gmail.com)

Tom 07885 968237

All coaches are fully LTA licensed coaches and CRB checked  
**GIDEA PARK LTC, GIDEA CLOSE, ROMFORD RM2 5NP**



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