



PHILIP MORANT

SCHOOL & COLLEGE

Ref: SNL\jr\UpdateLetter
17th April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very positive, yet busy return to the first week back after the Easter break, where on Tuesday our year 10 took a trip to the Houses of Parliament, our year 11 went on their cinema reward trip, and on Friday our year 10 prefect conference (for our newly appointed prefects) took place where they explored their leadership, legacy and how they wish to contribute to the school community over the next year.

It was wonderful to read such positive comments on our Facebook page after we shared the Colchester Gazette information from the School Guide. I'm sure all staff, students and families really appreciate the supportive words shared.

Actions from this letter

Join our Careers network by completing the expression of interest form below

Register for the support webinars offered by EMHST

Review the app please download the Arbor app and use this for reporting any absence.

Reporting absence

We have had an excellent week for student attendance, so thank you for supporting that. 94% of our students were in all week - this is so important as we start the summer term and we are recognising students through our 15 day attendance sprint rewards.

If your child is not able to be in school, the most helpful way for you to report attendance is through the **Arbor app**. This saves our attendance team hours of listening through voice messages and is quick and simple for you too. **If you don't presently use this app, please make this change this week.**

[Please see the guide here on how to do this.](#)

Learning Values

We introduced our new learning values to students this week. Our students are excellent at keeping our expectations of 'Ready, Respectful, Safe' but we wanted something more ambitious to educate them on how to be even more effective learners. Our learning values are 'Commitment, Curiosity and Courage'.

Next week we will be focusing on '**Commitment**'.

The strands of this learning value are 'Actively listen', 'Demonstrate urgency', 'Work hard', 'Participate in all activities'.

We will focus on a new learning value for each of the next three weeks and then students, staff and parents and carers will be able to give feedback before we finally launch a change to positive points and reports based around these values.

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THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



Mental Health and Wellbeing webinars for parents

The Essex Mental Health Support Teams are running more webinars for parents in April. Please click on the link to find out more and register using the QR Code on the poster. [MHST workshops April 2026](#).

PMSC Careers Network

As part of our drive to ensure that our students are fully informed and prepared for the world of work we would like your help to create a careers network. We would like to invite you or anyone you know to join our network to provide opportunities for our students to learn and/or experience a variety of career settings, knowledge and contacts. This could take place in the following formats and you can choose which ones you would be happy to take part in;

- Lunch and learn - lunch time visits with small groups of students with a Q and A focus
- Conduct mock interviews with students in years 10 - 13
- Support our KS3 deep learning careers days.
- Take on a student for work experience
- Offer a workplace focussed trip
- Deliver an assembly
- Work with our House Council
- Give keynote speeches at student leadership conferences
- Run a stall at our annual careers fair
- Join our community forum of parents/employers/education/charities in the city

If this is something that you or someone you know would like to get involved in please complete this Google form. [Expression of Interest in PMSC Careers Network](#)

We will be spending some time collating our network and will then be in touch with you to create a menu of careers activities for all of our students. **Please help us with any contacts you can.** From November 2026 our current year 9 students will be completing work experience in year 10.

Arriva mobile app ticket guidance for students

The Arriva bus team have sent through some updated information regarding their mobile app. All Arriva app users would have received information from them directly, but this is a reminder for them on what is happening. Any specific questions can be sent across to talktous@arriva.co.uk

[Arriva mobile app help sheet](#)

Apology

We have been made aware that there may have been an error in the year 11 homework emails sent out on Friday. We will investigate this on Monday and apologise for any incorrect information shared.

Key dates for the academic year - [Key date list linked here](#)

2026-2027 academic year term dates - [26-27 Term dates](#)

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Neill
Headteacher