

FAMILY MATTERS

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



Issue 1
Friday 10th Sept. 2021

Inside:

Exam results

New senior prefect
team

Jack Petchey
winners

BACK TO
School



Holy Family Catholic School & Sixth Form

Open Evening - Thursday 23rd September 2021

At Holy Family we provide academic success with excellent progression to leading universities including Oxford and Cambridge.

Strong pastoral care is at the heart of our school.

Our Open Evening for prospective year 7 students will give you the opportunity to get a feel for the school, hear the Headteacher speak and meet some of the pupils and teachers. There will be two Headteacher presentations: the first at 6pm followed by another at 7pm. Sixth form students will facilitate guided tours of the school.

Doors open from 5.30pm.

www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk



@hfcswaltham / 1, Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, E17 3EA

Quotation of the week

"You aspire to great things? Begin with little ones"

-St Augustine

The quotation from St Augustine reminds us what we already know in our hearts; that taking small steps adds up and that many years of small steps lead to the destination we aspire to reach. Our school motto is ASPIRE, Aspire stands for the six patron saints of the school - Anne, Stephen, Philomena, Ignatius, Richard and Elizabeth. We aspire to the very highest standards for all our young people and hope that they achieve their potential while they are with us.

Many of our Yr 13 students fulfilled their potential this summer when they collected their outstanding A level and Btec results. We were delighted to celebrate their achievements with them and see so many of them taking up places at university. Some of our highest attaining students' achievements can be seen below.

It was a similar story for Yr 11 with a fantastically good set of results with many students achieving the highest grades. Some of the top achievers can be seen below too. Well done to all of our students, thank you to their teachers and thank you to you as parents/carers for your support of them.



HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Top attaining Yr 13 students at A level and Btec 2021

A level

Lemuel Osei-Biney A*A*A* in Economics, Geography and Maths (Geography at University of Cambridge)

Anna Maxfield A*A*A* in English Literature, Geography and History (Global Sustainable Development at Warwick University)

Eamon McGrath A*A*A* in Chemistry, Maths and Physics (Mechatronics and Robotics at Leeds University)

Fergus McGrath A*A*A* in Economics, English Literature and Geography (Economics & Geography at Leeds University)

Johnathan Thevarajah A*A*A* in Biology, Chemistry and Maths (Bio-medicine at UCL)

Joel Jaimon A*A*AA in Art, Maths, Geography and Physics (Architecture at Sheffield University)

Olivia Contaldo A*A*A in Biology, Maths and Physics (Physics with Medical Physics at UCL)

Chuk Madukwe A*A*A in Economics, English Literature and Maths (Economics at Warwick University)

Rebekah Da Silva A*AAB in Sociology, Psychology, Religious Studies and Geography (Psychology at Queen Mary University)

Mariesa Francis-Gray A*AAB in History, Biology, Maths and Chemistry (Biomedical Sciences at Queen Mary University)

BTEC Level 3

Mildred Boakye D*D*D* in Business and IT (Business Information Technology at University of Kent)

Mateusz Majchrowski D*D*D* in Business and IT (Computer Games Design at Staffordshire University)

Vianne Vo D*D*A in Health & Social Care and A Level Sociology (Child Nursing at City University)

Gabriel Mikuskiewicz D*DD* in Business and IT (Gap Year)

Mark Ofori-Yeboah D*DD* in Business and IT (Human Resource Management at UEL)

Mary Lochun D*DD in Health & Social Care and Applied Science (Biomedical Sciences at Nottingham Trent University)

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Yr 11 GCSE High achievers

Name	Grade 9	Grade 8	Grade 7
Paul Dimen	10	0	0
Edward O'Corbaidh	7	2	0
Brenda Mana	6	4	0
Dominick Aurelio	6	2	1
Joshua Hippolyte	5	5	0
Natasha Johnson	5	3	1
Shanee O'Gara	5	3	1
Laura Szarmacher	5	2	1
Sebastian El-Homsi	4	4	1
James Alfonso	4	1	4
Vira Vitiv	3	6	1
Treesha Matthew	3	5	1
Caitlin Tapley	3	4	2
Michael Loates	3	3	1
Hanna Dasilva	3	2	1

These results were thoroughly well deserved and show how resilient our students were in coping with the challenges of the pandemic and the disruption to their learning.

The start of term

The start of term has gone well. Thank you for your co-operation and support of the lateral flow testing. We picked up a couple of positive cases and those students have had to stay off school. What is different this year is that close contacts of students in school do not have to self-isolate provided they are under the age of 18 years and 6 months. Similarly staff who may be close contacts of an infectious person do not have to self-isolate provided that they have been double jabbed.

Being double jabbed is the best way to protect yourself and others. A number of our older students in the sixth form have taken advantage of the vaccination programme and we would encourage others to do so, following the public health advice. We are desperately keen to avoid school closures but Covid has not gone away and we need to do what we can to keep the school safe and to protect everyone. Face coverings are not required at present but students and staff may wear one if they wish. Our latest version of our risk assessment can be found on our website.

Students are in lessons and working well. We want this to be a much more 'normal' year for them all. Extra-curricular clubs and activities are starting again, sports fixtures between schools will be recommencing shortly. We no longer have to keep students in year group bubbles so, for example, sixth formers, can do their mentoring of Yr 7 students again. All these things are really important and add to the overall quality of your child's education. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to the school fund since this is a really helpful means of raising funds to support these additional activities. You may pay school fund contributions via ParentPay.

A reminder about our expectations

We expect all students to do as they are asked the first time of asking. We rely on you as parents/carers to reinforce our expectations and to support your son/daughter with their home learning. We will endeavour to communicate effectively with you and to work positively with your child. We will be returning to holding detentions and we expect your support with the behaviour policy and sanctions. A well-ordered school is a happy school and a successful one where everyone can learn and grow.

Please encourage your child in his/her prayer life too - we pray at least six times a day at school - during registration/assembly and then before every lesson. Please encourage this prayer life - it is not easy with teenagers, I know. Churches are asking us to return to Mass rather than attend Mass remotely so please consider this too. We are very well supported by our local priests who come to school to say Mass for us regularly too.

Social media

Social media is the bane of teachers' lives. No-one should be on social media under the age of 13 but clearly many young children are. Please monitor their use and teach them how to stay safe - we do this in school but it needs reinforcing at home. So many issues on social media come into school and we have to spend a lot of valuable time dealing with them. Please limit the amount of time your son/daughter spends on digital devices. Again I know this is not easy but you as parents set the expectations in your family.

Archaeological Exhibition

You may recall that when our new sports hall was built there was an archaeological dig which uncovered significant evidence about Roman remains in this part of Walthamstow. We have been notified that there will be a pop up exhibition of these artefacts on Sat 25th September and the details can be found further on in this edition of Family Matters. We hope to make use of the artefacts in school too and be able to display some of them and use them as teaching aids.

School photographs

We had the school photographer in to take photographs of the students this week. They all looked very smart. There are individual photographs of students and yeargroup photographs of Yr 11 and Yr 13 which you will be able to purchase if you wish.

Car parking

Please note that we cannot accommodate parents parking in the school car park. It is always full to capacity and parents ignoring this rule are endangering others. Please find an alternative place to park your car if you visit the school or want to collect your child at the end of the day.

Start of Year Meetings

We have two start of year meetings next week on Tuesday 14th Sept for Y 11 parents and on Thursday 16th Sept for Yr 12 parents. Parents in those year groups will receive a letter inviting them to attend the meeting. The meetings provide an opportunity for you to hear about our plans for your son/daughter in the year ahead.

Parents' Surgery

Parents' Surgery resumes as a face to face service. If you have anything you wish to discuss with me as the headteacher you can see me between 4pm and 5pm on the Walthamstow House site. You can call the office and book a time if you wish, or turn up without an appointment. Parents' Surgery starts again on Thursday 16th September.

Thank you for your support of our school community. We are here to serve your child and do our best for them.

Please remember us in your prayers.

Dr Andy Stone

Headteacher



Safeguarding Alert - Monkey Web

Why are you receiving this alert?

Our online safety experts have been alerted to an extremely dangerous website and app called 'Monkey', which allows users to have video calls with strangers. The platform markets itself as 'an alternative to Omegle, with a TikTok vibe'. Our online safety experts reviewed and tested this platform and have found that it contains large amounts of inappropriate, disturbing, and harmful content transmitted via web cameras.

What is Monkey?

- Monkey is an online video chat service that is similar to Omegle or Chat Roulette, with a TikTok style interface.
- Users can talk to strangers from all over the world via webcam.
- Once a conversation is finished, or one user wishes to leave the conversation or talk to someone else, they click 'next' and are presented with a new user who could be from anywhere in the world.
- Users are asked to select their gender before meeting people.

Key Safeguarding Concerns

- Harmful Content – Whilst testing this platform, reviewers found that every second or third user was a male masturbating, with some attempting to interact. Reviewers found countless examples of adverts for sex, as well as pornography and bestiality. Extremely harmful content can flash up for a few seconds before the user clicks next, meaning there is no time to report in most cases.

The unpredictability of this content is likely to increase the shock factor and harmful impact because users have no warning as to what may appear.

- No age verification – There is little to no age verification mechanisms which children of any age can easily bypass. All users must do is tick a box to confirm that they are over 18. If users are signing in using their Facebook or Google accounts, the platform will still ask for a date of birth without any proof. The place where users input their DOB is pre-set to age 18.
- Designed to attract children – Everything, from the name, to the graphics used on the platform suggest this is created to attract children. It is described as 'an Omegle Alternative with TikTok vibes'. On Google Play Store, its description reads 'Make friends and chat to celebrities' and the app has copied TikTok's vertical style video feed.
- In-app purchasing – There are ample opportunities to spend money via VIP profiles or through buying more in-app currency called coins.
- Location sharing – The location of every user is shared publicly (not specifically but will say a country and a town/city) and there is no option to block this.
- Users can not access this platform without turning their camera on. If you deny the camera, Monkey will prompt you 'Monkey needs the cam'.
- Young people access Monkey Web via other mainstream platforms – Our online safety experts have located numerous examples of screenshots from Monkey being shared on mainstream social media platforms including TikTok and Instagram. Monkey also has its own accounts on TikTok and Instagram with a link to the site in the bio of each profile. This means that young people may be driven to the platform by viral videos discussing the site.
- Sharing personal information online – As with all livestreaming apps, children and young people could give away personal information without realising. They may also share details with strangers online or via linking their Facebook or Google accounts.

[To learn more click the Safety Hub image:](#)



WELLBEING

The benefits of kindness.

Tuesday 7th September was
Youth Mental Health Awareness day

You can learn more by clicking the image below:

Why is kindness good for our mental health?

We may easily see how kindness helps other people, but did you know that kindness can also improve our own mental health and wellbeing as well?



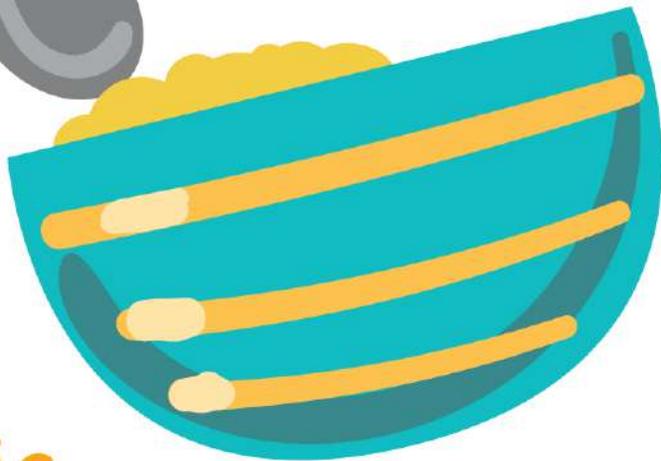
Kindness:

- ☀️ reduces stress;
- ☀️ improves our mood;
- ☀️ increases our confidence in ourselves;
- ☀️ helps us feel more satisfied with our lives;
- ☀️ creates a sense of belonging;
- ☀️ makes us feel less lonely;
- ☀️ keeps things in perspective; and
- ☀️ makes the world a happier place by motivating others to be kind too!



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The right fuel for learning, every day

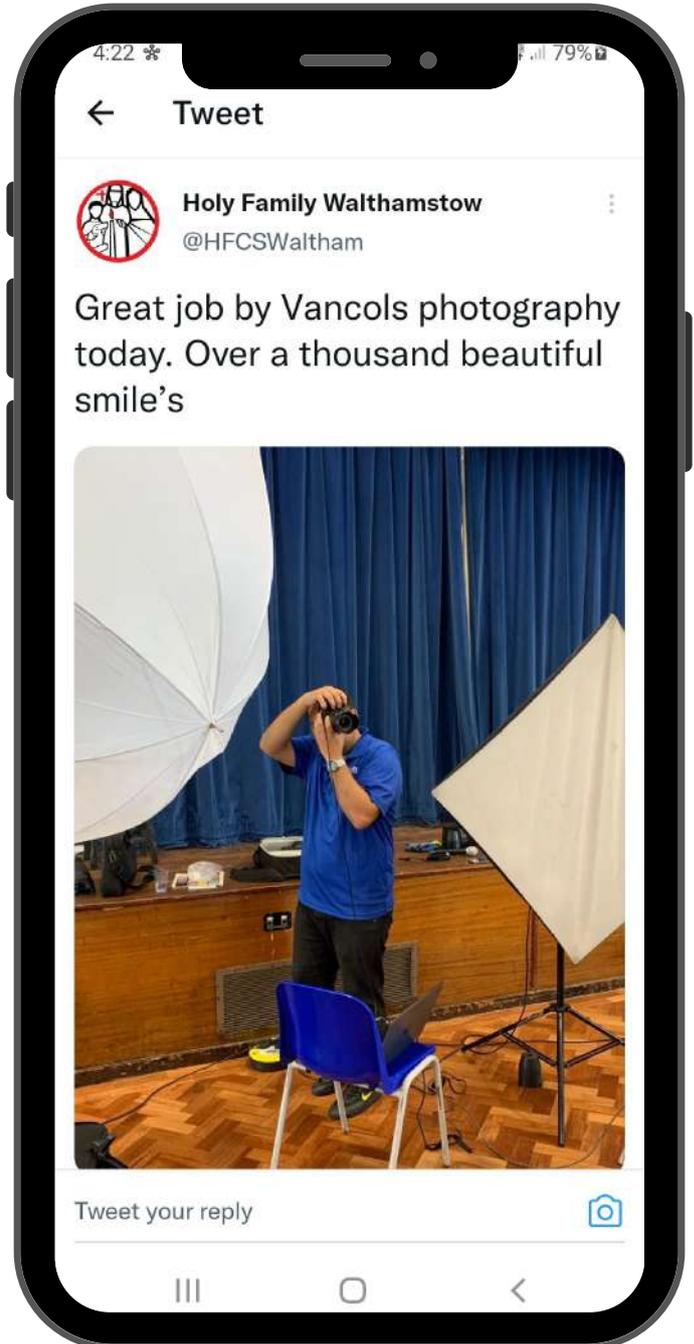
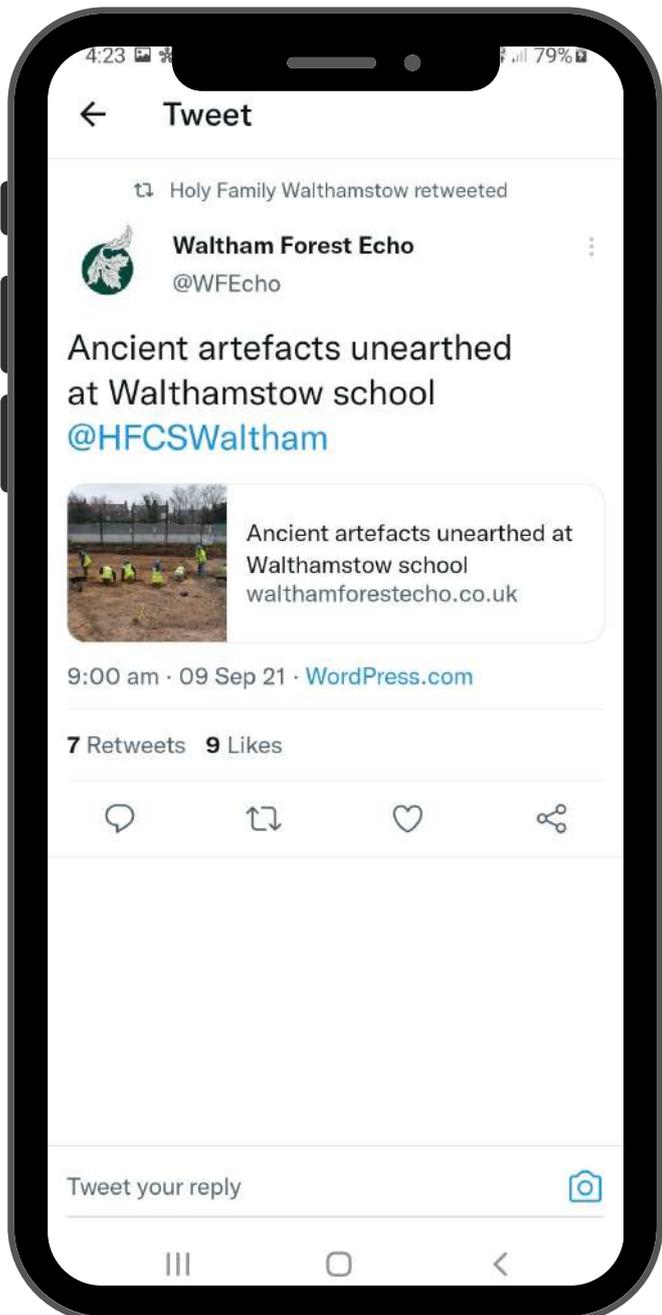


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breakfast**

SOCIAL MEDIA CATCHUP



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PRESS RELEASE:

Pop-up archaeology exhibition at The Mill: Discover Walthamstow's past

Archaeologists from [MOLA \(Museum of London Archaeology\)](#) and [Pre-Construct Archaeology](#) are holding a free pop-up exhibition at The Mill community centre, Coppermill Lane, E17 7HA on **Saturday 25th September** from 10am-4pm.

The exhibition will look at recent archaeological excavations carried out at **Holy Family Catholic School and Sixth Form** ahead of the construction of the school's new sports hall.

The excavations took place at a site on Vinegar Alley, a medieval footpath linking the Church of St Mary to Shernhall Street. Archaeologists found evidence that the site was lived on and farmed at various points in the last 3000 years. They found a range of structures from over the centuries, including a late Bronze Age roundhouse, a group of four late Roman timber framed farm buildings possibly linked to a larger villa complex nearby, and a medieval field system. Archaeologists from Pre-Construct Archaeology have since been using a range of techniques to learn even more about the area's past.

Visitors to the pop-up exhibition will be able to:

- See a display of finds excavated from the site, some of which are almost 3000 years old
- Learn more about how archaeologists investigate the past, the techniques they use, and the types of objects they find
- Find out how, from its earliest days, life in Walthamstow has been shaped by the River Lea

Chaplaincy Corner

Welcome back to Chaplaincy Corner, and let us pray as we begin the new school year:

Loving God, we ask that you protect all students and staff who are returning to school, and give parents and guardians peace about their well-being.

Bless the body, mind, and soul of every student and member of staff. May they celebrate your glory and use their education to build your kingdom of peace.

In Jesus Christ's name.

AMEN

We thank Canon Niall for celebrating the year 7 Welcome Mass last Friday. It is wonderful that the first encounter for Year 7s at Holy Family should be an encounter in God's presence. Canon Niall's homily stressed that change is part of growing up and how school can be exciting – learning new things, making new friends, trying a new sport – but above all it is about enjoying. "When you enjoy anything you quickly grow in knowledge".



The Prayer Garden sunflowers have grown well over the summer and are enjoying a last burst of heat. We're hoping they will provide welcome snacks for the birds during the colder months.

The Season of Creation runs from 1 September (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 October (the feast of St Francis of Assisi) each year. This is an ecumenical season dedicated to prayer for the protection of creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles.

We give thanks for all that God has made, repent for the damage that we have caused and commit ourselves to take action to protect the earth, our common home.

There are many ways to respond to Pope Francis' call to care for the gift of God's creation – take a walk in your local park, or take a few moments to thank God for the flowers growing in your garden. Plant wildflower seeds ready for next year and remember to reduce, reuse, recycle.

Parish Confirmation Programs 2022

St Patrick's – application forms are available in the church porch. Open to Year 10 and above. Completed forms must be returned to the Presbytery with a copy of the candidate's baptismal certificate attached.

St Joseph's – the first parents meeting will be held on Saturday 9th October at 10am in the church. There is still time to register. Forms are available from the Jubilee centre.

Blessings, Mrs Grierson, Chaplain

SENIOR PREFECT TEAM 2021-2022



Deputy Head Boy: Scott Lambson
Deputy Head Girl: Tanya Cannon

Head Boy: Abiola Kushanu-Oniru
Head Girl: Angelica Sabarias



Senior Prefects:
Jennifer Ganesharajah
Gabriel Lagrata
John Pereira
Alexina Yevu
Alwin Mathew
John O'Corbaidh
Juno Erin Vimalenthiran
Sashelle Cuffie
Teni Balogun

YEAR 9

Student of the week

Darcie Winter

for being the first student in year 9 to get a star!
Starting as you mean to go on.

Well done.

Congratulations to the all the students who received stars last week there were lots!

Please see below a selection of who got stars:

David Matumu - French
Luke Pemberton - French
Darcie Winter - French
Jemuel Omango - French
Kaylah Lee Taylor - Act of Kindness

Welcome to Upper Site Year 9.

I know it's a big change for you and its bound to be exciting and nerve wracking at the same time.

You've all been brilliant this past week and we are all very proud of the way you have conducted yourselves.

Self care tip:

Make sure you are taking time to do something you enjoy each week. Take time for activities that make you happy. This can be anything that you enjoy. Its so important to make time for ourselves and make sure we keep enjoyable activities going.

JackPetchey Foundation

Inspire • Motivate • Achieve



May

Nevin Roys

Consistently high work ethic during the lockdown period in all of his subjects. Nevin goes above and beyond what's expected of him. He is always thoughtful and helpful in form time and PSHE lessons. By the Year Team and Year Leaders.



April

Cameron Hinds

I would like to nominate Cameron for his maturity, initiative and courage to report an incident that occurred in the community.

PE

EXTRA-CURRICULAR TIMETABLE

	Walthamstow Site		Wiseman Site	
	LUNCH 1.25pm-2pm	AFTER SCHOOL 3.20pm-4.30pm	LUNCH 1.25pm-2pm	AFTER SCHOOL 3.20pm-4.30pm
Mon	Yr 7 Boys Basketball GRE	Yr 7/8 Netball - COE/PAK All yrs Gymnastics WIM	Yr 9 Basketball LAD/LIK	Yr 8 Football (girls and boys) LIK. (Wiseman Site)
Tues	Yr 7/8 Girls Football PAK	Yr 7 Basketball - WIR (Wiseman Site)	YR 9 FITNESS - WIR Yr 10 Basketball - WIM	Yr 9/10/11 Netball (WIM, PAK, COE)
Wed	Yr 7 Girls Basketball COE	Tramp - Week 1 Yr 8, Week 2, Yr 9. Yr 7 Mixed Football GRE	YR 10 FITNESS - WIR Yr11 Basketball - WIM/LIK	Yr 9 Kick Boxing (Week 2) - HUA
Thurs	Yr 8 Boys Basketball LAD	Yr 7 - Multi Sport activites (PAK)	All Yrs Badminton - LIK/PAK YR 11 FITNESS - WIR	Yr 10/11 Football- LIK Yr 9 Kick Boxing (Week 1) - HUA
Fri	Yr 8 Girls Basketball LAD	Staff training	Yr 11 Football - LIK Rowing (Coach)	Staff Training

All clubs start from Monday 13th September.

Please see your PE teacher for further club information.

EXPRESS YOURSELF

POETRY
CLUB

THURSDAY LUNCHTIMES
IN THE LRC
ON BOTH SITES





Young Leaders FREE activities

with award winning Leaders.....because COMMUNITY matters
 Improve your health...wellbeing....confidence

Every Monday from 13 September
 2021

4.30-5.30pm	Leadership/Drama
5.00-6.00pm	Street Dance

Street Dance & Drama Leadership activities
 Available free of charge till July 2021
 No costs involved

To register your interest please call
 Leaders Community -07831 224510
leadersacademyenquiries@gmail.com

GET FIT...HAVE FUN...MAKE FRIENDS

Open to ages 11-15 years
 All abilities are welcome-staff are DBS Certified
 Covid-19 safety measures in place

VENUE: Paradox Centre 3 Ching Way Chingford
 E48YD

Instagram: [leaderscommunity_](#)
Snapchat/Twitter: [leaders2k16](#)
Facebook: [Leaderscommunityest2016](#)



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Website : www.leaderscommunity.org