

# GCSE results



Some of the 11-year-old pupils at New Hall School who passed a GCSE exam

## Celebrating five years early...

IT was not just the 16-year-olds at New Hall School in boreham celebrating their GCSE results.

Some 11-year-old pupils at the school may be a few years away from taking all their GCSE subjects, but they have already received their first GCSE qualification.

There were 21 at the school celebrating gaining a Level 1 politics academic project GCSE.

Of those 21 pupils, 81 per cent were awarded grades A\* to A.

Alastair Moulton, head of preparatory division, said: "Our pupils should be very proud for achieving such outstanding results in a GCSE project five

years early.

"We are delighted to be able to offer this unique course, which offers pupils exposure to the world of politics and current affairs in their early school career."

One of the older GCSE students went the 'extra mile' when preparing for his exams.

Ben Hutton-Penman achieved four grade 9s, four grade 8s, one grade 7 and one grade 5.

While Ben was sitting his mock exams, he was also competing in the Atlantic Rally for Cruisers sailing race, completing an Atlantic crossing in 17 days.

# Successful year for Maldon and Witham schools

By HANNAH BROWN AND CHARLOTTE PAGE

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A SIGNIFICANT number of Plume Academy's pupils in Maldon secured outstanding results, including William Moore with ten grade 8s and one grade 7.

He said: "Wow, this is unbelievable. All the hard work has paid off and thank you to the teachers for all their hard work too."

"It's been an amazing five years and I cannot quite believe just how good this feels."

In total, the year group at the Maldon school were awarded 393 grade 9 to 7 and 12 students secured eight or more 9 to 7 grades.

Maltings Academy, part of Academies Enterprise Trust in Witham, saw almost double the number of students compared to last year achieving the top grade 9.

A total of 62 per cent of students achieved a grade 5 - considered a strong pass nationally - or higher in English, with 76 per cent scoring a grade 4 - a pass - or higher in the subject.

In maths, 66 per cent of students picked up a grade 4 or higher.

Head teacher Emma Baker said: "The success we have seen this



Plume Academy pupil William Moore

be celebrating the best results New Rickstones Academy has ever achieved.

"The huge improvements made are testament to the hard work put in by students, coupled with huge levels of support from each other, their families and the dedicated staff here at New Rickstones."

Also seeing an increase was Ormiston Rivers Academy in Burnham, with the percentage of students achieving grades 9 to 5 in both English and maths increasing by five per cent compared to last year. There were also extremely strong performances in science, French, performing arts and religious studies.

Principal Joan Costello said: "These results are particularly pleasing as this cohort had an extremely difficult start to their Year 11, but have shown great tenacity, support and community spirit to overcome adversity and achieve these outstanding results."

Felsted School pupils recorded outstanding results. Headmaster Chris Townsend said: "There are some exceptional results this year, with seven pupils achieving at least six GCSEs at grade 9, 18 pupils achieving a full set of 9 to 7 grades and 46 per cent of all GCSE exams being graded at 9 to 7."

year is testament to the dedication and hard work of the students and staff, underpinned by the support of parents and carers.

"These results demonstrate the wonderful ability of our students and will allow them to go on to lead remarkable lives."

Also in Witham, New Rickstones Academy Year 11 students saw a 24 per cent improvement on last year's cohort.

A total of 65 per cent of students scored a grade 4 - a pass - or above in both English and maths, compared to 41 per cent last year.

Head of academy Damian Lee said: "We are extremely proud to

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