

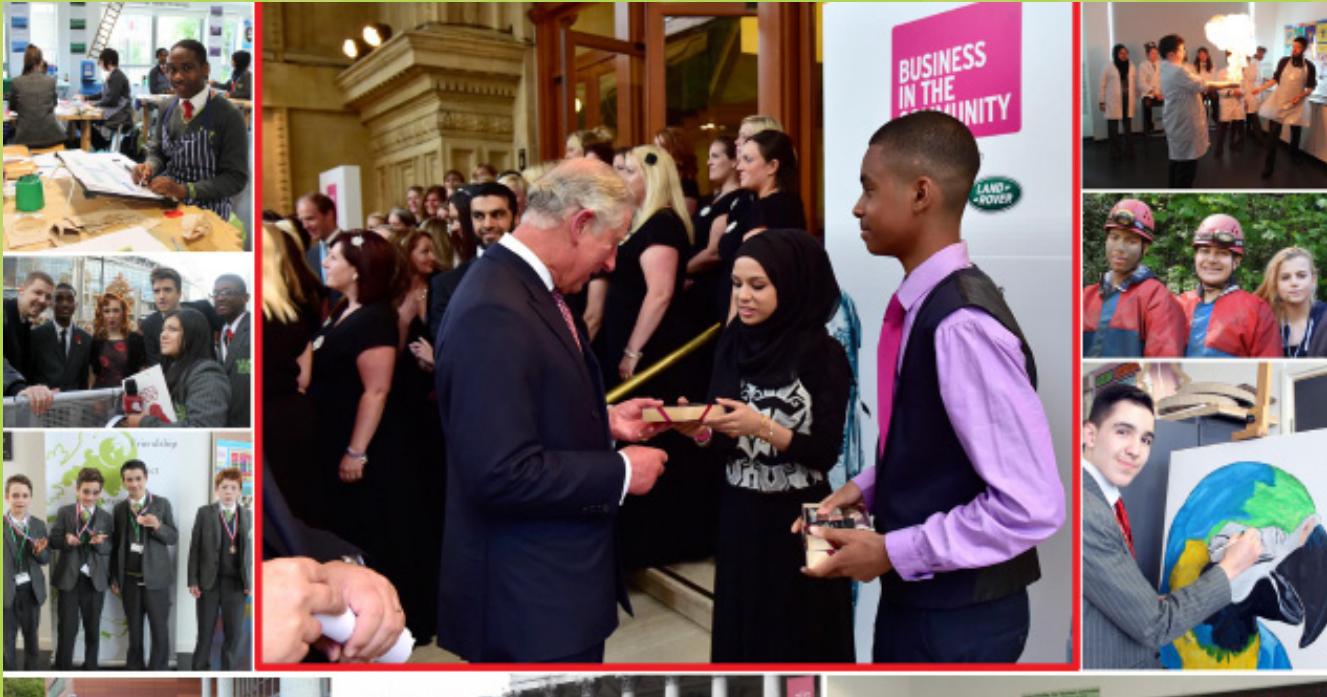
July 2014

Summer Term
Issue 11

Skinner's
academy



academy newsletter



We come to the end of a crucially important and highly successful academic year. In some ways I cannot understand where the year has gone; arriving at the Academy and meeting staff and pupils for the first time at the start of the year seems like only yesterday, yet so much has happened and so much has been achieved since then.

As always, this latest newsletter is a reflection of the tremendous dynamism and vibrancy that defines Skinner's Academy Hackney, and is a record of the broad variety of activities that regularly take place in the Academy and beyond. The fact that such a broad range of activities is continually on offer is primarily the result of our dedicated staff who willingly go above and beyond to provide our pupils with such an exciting and diverse education. For that, and for their continued commitment to the

raising of academic standards, to the broadening of pupils' horizons and to their genuine care of our pupils, I sincerely thank them all.

Over the summer holiday a number of building projects will be taking place, including an extension to the library, the completion of two additional science laboratories and the landscaping of the outdoor area to create an improved recreational space. Work will also commence on our dedicated sixth form centre and additional classroom block which will be ready for the opening of our new, aspirational and high performing sixth form in September 2015.

I wish everyone a very happy, safe and relaxing summer and look forward to the new academic year with expectation and confidence.

Tim Clark,
Principal, Skinner's Academy



C. W.

Celebrating Sixth Form Achievement...



“ ”

It has been an absolute pleasure working with our sixth form students and seeing them develop into independent, thoughtful young adults ready for the challenges of university and life after school. The highlight of my year has been working with individual students on their UCAS (university) applications and ensuring that everyone is prepared to enter into further study in relation to what they are most passionate about.

Students this year are going on to study such a wide range of subjects, from traditional subjects to the more unusual (American Studies, Criminology, Accounting, International Business, Midwifery and Sports Rehabilitation to name a few!). It's fantastic to think about all the different career paths, opportunities and experiences our sixth formers will have in the future and I can't wait to hear back about all their successes in life after Skinner's'.

Ms Potter, Curriculum Lead for Business Studies & Deputy Head of Sixth Form

“ ”

I will mostly miss the great teachers I have gotten to know, laugh and learn with.

Beauty Adeosun, Class of 2014... on her way to an Information Management and Business Studies degree at Loughborough University

“ ”

I will definitely miss the teachers who I have known for such a long time, and the some of the fun trips we had!

Joelma Goncalves, Class of 2014... on her way to study American Studies at Canterbury Christ Church University

“ ”

The main thing I will miss is the support given in terms of arranging work experience and feedback on coursework.

Sugra Julium, Class of 2014... on her way to study Midwifery at City University

“ ”

I will miss the teaching staff who made my learning more enjoyable.

Jordy Ungudi, Class of 2014...on his way to Middlesex University to study Sports and Exercise Rehabilitation



Past, Present & Looking to the Future

An Exciting Brand New Sixth Form: Launches in September 2015

Are you a Year 11 pupil in 2014-2015 and excited about finding a fantastic place to embark on your post-16 education?

In September 2015, the brand new Skinnlers' Academy Sixth Form Centre will launch and Year 11s (in the 2014-2015 academic year) are encouraged to apply if they would like to be part of a dynamic, friendly, high achieving, supportive sixth form. We will offer a brand new area for students and new facilities, as well as an academic and vocational curriculum.

Our "Be the best you can" ethos will support students while in the sixth form and also beyond... into university and/or the world of work. The Academy is dedicated to bringing out essential skills in our students that are desired by employers in every industry, such as communication, leadership, critical thinking, problem solving and a sense of commitment. Much more information will become available from Autumn 2015 but if you'd like a sneak peek, we can confirm that we'll offer the below and you are welcome to ask for more details.

- Academic mentoring for all students with our advisors
- A wide range of A-Level and BTEC subjects
- Opportunities for work experience in a range of industries
- A comprehensive programme of activities relating to higher education and alternative progression routes, which provides students with a distinct advantage when it comes to applications
- An enrichment programme and year-round initiatives designed to help each student stand out from the crowd and a comprehensive, well-respected Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) programme

Top Tips for Sixth Form Success

“ ”

Put in the effort and be willing to do your very best each day; if you can bring this to the sixth form every day, the teachers will go the extra mile. The biggest obstacle you will ever face is yourself, overcome that and nothing and no one will be able to stop you.

Samroz Tandel, Class of 2013,
1st Year, Maths at Kings' College

“ ”

Complete all your work. Knowing you did everything in your power is so much better than regretting and feeling like you should have tried harder.

Sadia Aden, Class of 2013,
1st Year, International Politics at Brunel University

“ ”

Get your head in the game from the start, and don't let anything distract you from your goal.

Ana Dju, Class of 2013,
1st Year, Law and International Relations at Portsmouth University

“ ”

Make sure you take advantage of all the resources available, ask for feedback at all times and annoy your teachers for extra work. Never underestimate the power of feedback!

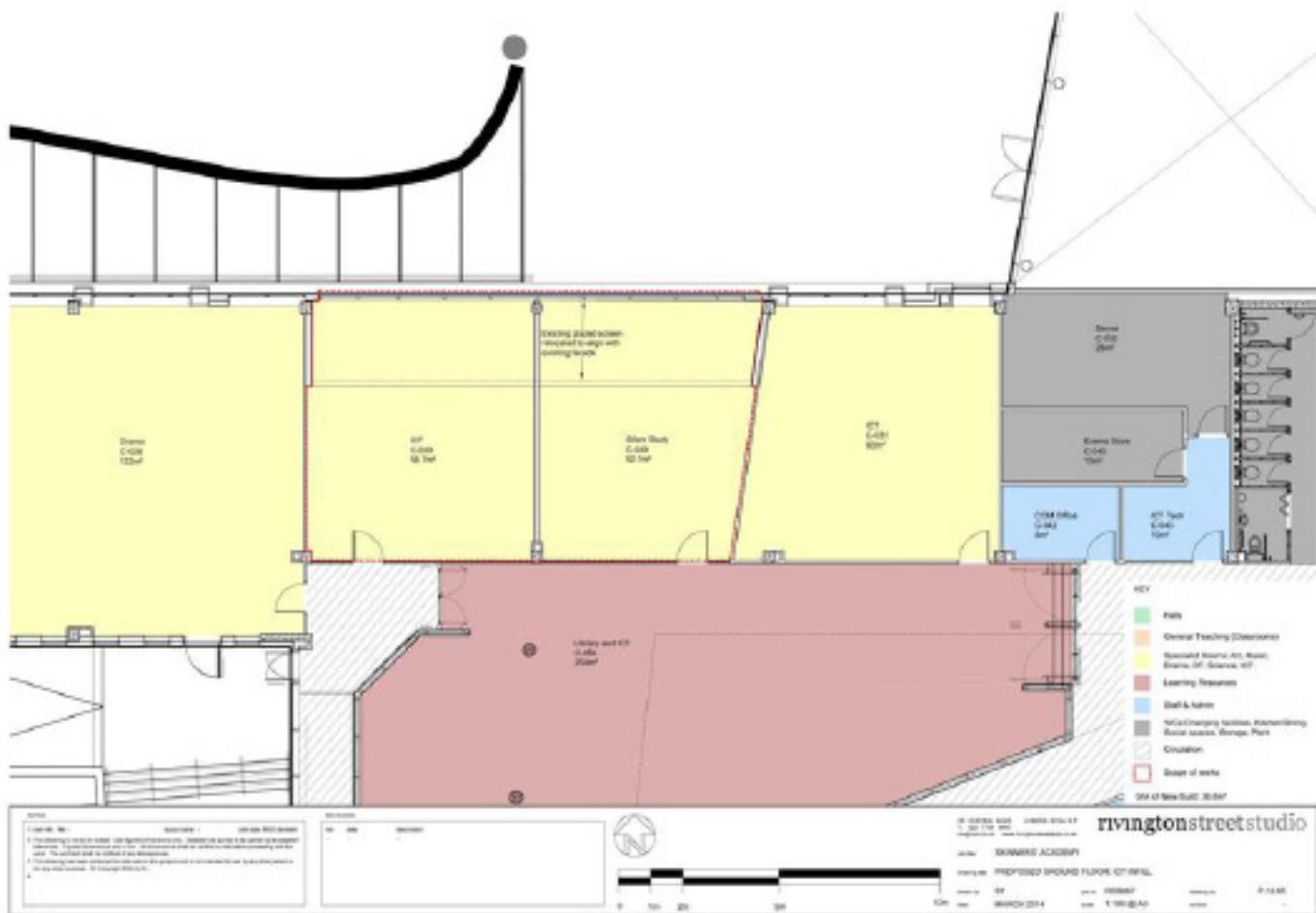
Juliana Volpato, Class of 2013
1st Year, History at Queen Mary University of London

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Speak to Miss Hobbs, Miss Potter, Mrs Visram, Mr Clark or email...
[post16@skinnersacademy.org.uk](mailto:post16@skinnnersacademy.org.uk)

Skinnners' Academy Staff Photo 2013-2014





Buildings Projects

We are so very fortunate to have such a modern, state of the art building in which to work. As the Academy roll grows, however, it is necessary to make various changes to our facilities. Most importantly, we have the extremely exciting project of opening our new, high performing sixth form in September 2015 which will offer a wide range of A Level and vocational BTEC courses to our own Year 11 pupils as well as those from other schools.

- The top floor of the Academy is to be remodelled to create the new sixth form centre which will comprise private study facilities, a social area with coffee bar and ICT facilities, as well as rooms for interviews and sixth form staff.
- The west end of the Academy (near the sports hall) is to have an additional three-storey building erected which will provide general classrooms and a new inclusion centre.
- The two ICT classrooms near the learning resource centre are to be remodelled to enable an extension to the LRC to be built.
- The outdoor play area is to be completely remodelled. At the moment, the outdoor area is dominated by a large grassy mound which can become treacherous when it rains; the area has had to be fenced off since before Christmas because it can be so slippery. The area will be levelled and transformed into a large, flat play area.
- The east end of the first floor is to be remodelled to provide two extra science laboratories. At present, we have only six labs which results in science lessons being taught outside of labs as we often have eight science lessons running at any one time.

It is hoped that the last two developments (the outdoor play area and the two new science labs) will be complete in time for when we return in September, whilst the two larger projects (the sixth form centre and the additional teaching block) will be completed by the summer of 2015.

Mr Clark, Principal

Skinnners' hosts national e-safety briefing

Skinnners' Academy was proud to host the 'E-Safety Live Briefing' by South West Grid for Learning (SWGL). Held on 1 July 2014, the aim of the briefing was to provide information about the latest research conclusions, Ofsted frameworks, legislation updates, latest technology overviews; opportunities and threats and latest tools and resources.

The Academy warmly welcomed SWGL representatives who delivered the briefing which was primarily aimed at senior leaders and those with safeguarding responsibility but also to anyone working with children and young people.

"Skinners' Academy is committed to being at the forefront of communicating the importance of e-safety to this digital generation of pupils. These are topics we teach from Year 7 and the Academy enjoyed hosting this event featuring the latest safeguarding tools and resources."

Ms Rao, Curriculum Lead for ICT & Computing



New City Competition Workshop

On 15 May, during a specialism-focused drop down day, Year 8 pupils took part in a New City Competition workshop which provided them with the opportunity to get hands-on experience in designing three dimensional models of buildings and structures. Pupils were presented with the challenge to create a new building or structure for a brand new city to be created in England. This gave pupils the opportunity to be creative as well as using computing skills to showcase their 3D models. All pupils were provided with access to the VLE to allow them to post their competition entries.



Celebrating a Skinners' Company tradition

Corpus Christi is a Christian festival which falls on the Thursday, eight weeks after Easter Day. This year it was held on 19 June. The Latin phrase literally means, "the body of Christ", and the festival celebrates the belief that the body and blood of Christ are represented by the bread and wine used at communion/mass.

There is a tradition in the Skinners' Company that the new Master of the Company is elected on Corpus Christi. To celebrate the election of the new master, the Company holds a lunch and church service to which the Head/Principal of each of the six Skinners' schools/academies is invited along with another member of staff and two senior pupils. This year Mr Clark was accompanied by Mr McNaught (Vice Principal, Curriculum) and by Diane Ejimadu and Tosin Ajibade, both school prefects in Year 10.



Publishing Success for Year 8 Pupils

Back in March, 20 pupils from Year 7 and 8 took part in the Stonecrab Theatre Brasilience Writing Project. Fast forward to July and we are thrilled to announce that Ozge Parin and Zack Dowding's works have been selected as the strongest contributions and their poems have been printed as parts of the book "London Pathways: Heritage, Identity and Imagination" which presents four stories about Londoners who left their original countries a long time ago and highlights how their lives changed completely since the move.

Ms Jargot, Curriculum Lead for EAL



Skinners' Pupils receive a Social Sciences Masterclass from the London School of Economics

On 14 May, 25 Year 8 pupils travelled to the LSE's main (Holborn) campus for an 'Introduction to Social Sciences' workshop. This event was designed to provide pupils with a greater understanding of social sciences in academic terms and to highlight their relevance to big questions of the day. Pupils were also told how GCSE choices can facilitate the progression into the study of social sciences at higher level.

The day involved insights into university life (with a focus on Russell Group Universities in general and the LSE in particular) and an academic lecture about social sciences and their everyday relevance – which was highlighted through discussions and debates about why people earn the salaries they do, which the pupils enjoyed. This programme was tailored to our pupils' age group which enabled them to be participative throughout the day.

Finally, a Q&A session and a tour of the LSE campus was led by some of their student ambassadors, which allowed pupils to ask questions and engage with university students who study social sciences subjects. These were incredibly important elements of the trip, as pupils had the chance to ask both general and specific questions to students and staff who have experience in this field.

Overall, we believe this was a great incentive for our pupils to start exploring competitive universities such as LSE, and in the long-term, to increase their self-confidence as well as their aspirations for the future.

Mrs Visram, Careers Development Co-ordinator



Business & Enterprise

Subjects in the City - Partnership with Linklaters

The Business Studies department has been working with global law firm Linklaters on a Subjects in the City project, made possible thanks to Inspire, the borough's Education Business Partnership with whom the Academy has established strong links over the years.

Business pupils in Year 9 were put into teams and given an employment law case to research. With just two lessons to complete their task and put together a poster, pupils in Miss Potter's class had to research key employment laws and apply them to the facts of their cases. Pupils then had to present their findings back to the class and debrief a trainee lawyer from Linklaters, Tom Hamilton, who kindly provided pupils with feedback on their presentations.

Whilst taking on their tasks, pupils had the opportunity to use and develop their research, team work and presenting skills which are deeply valuable in every field.

When asked to reflect upon their experience, students concluded that:

-“Being a lawyer definitely is not as easy as it looks, you have to be prepared for the worst and always be ready. Now I know that there are specific laws for different cases” – Wiktor Posadzy, Year 9

-“I have learnt about different laws and how they are breached in everyday life. I did not know that women were entitled to paid maternity leave and men to paternity leave” – Anil Sasmaz, Year 9

-“There is a lot of pressure on lawyers as they sometimes work with very large companies. I was surprised by the number of cases on equal pay” – Ezgi Kahraman, Year 9



“ ”

I am delighted to support Subjects in the City which fits perfectly into Linklaters' extensive Learn for Work programme. This aims to raise the aspirations of young people across Hackney and what better way to do this than through the teachers who inspire more young people than we as businesses could ever reach.

Tom Hamilton, Trainee Solicitor at Linklaters LLP London

“ ”

It was interesting to learn that the biggest company in the world is a mining company. It was also good to know that employers can be sued if they do not treat their employees as they should.

Deegbah Kamara, Year 9

“ ”

It was so valuable to work with somebody in the legal profession to develop resources to deliver to the class. Much can also be used for the future GCSE students learning about employment law. We were fortunate that Tom was so willing and committed to give up his time to work with us and the students really valued his input and feedback on their presentations.

Miss Potter, Curriculum Lead for Business Studies & Deputy Head of 6th Form



An entrepreneurial insight into technology and engineering

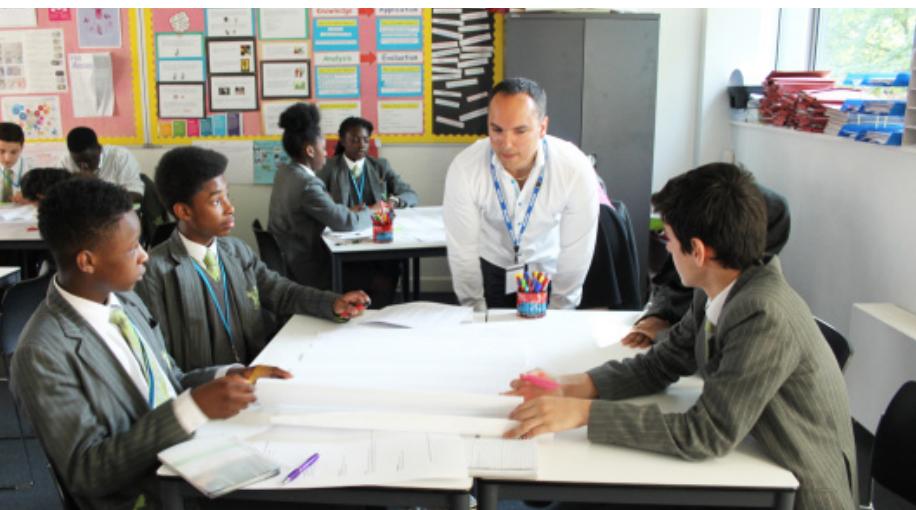
Leon Davis, founder and owner of Ladtech Ltd and his colleague Nick Rowlands visited the Business Studies department on Friday 16 May. Ladtech is described by its owner as a software development company that is “crazy about technology and obsessed with engineering”.

Our Year 9 & 10 Business pupils had a session about key enterprise skills and the qualities that enable entrepreneurs to become successful. Mr Davis delivered an interactive presentation about how he started his business, highlighting key skills he used to make it into a success.

Pupils were placed into teams and given a business idea. Our budding entrepreneurs were required to use key enterprise skills to develop the idea and then pitch their business to Mr Davis in a Dragons den style competition. The winning teams won the right to choose how to spend the £500 donated to each class by Ladtech on a reward trip for everyone.

Pupils were able to develop and enhance their entrepreneurial skills through presenting their ideas to a real life entrepreneur. It was a great event that all involved thoroughly enjoyed.

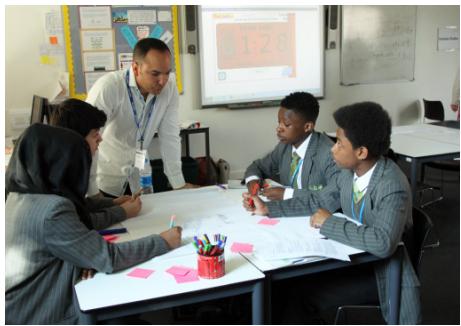
Ms Kurtuldu, Teacher of Business Studies



“ ”

It is so important to speak to schools. There are a few things that are essential to know and can really help these young people become truly great professionals. Depending on whom you work with, it can be a lottery as to whether or not you will implicitly learn these skills in the early years of your career. I'm grateful for things I have been taught and it feels dishonest to hold onto my experience and not share it. I am so pleased that we had the opportunity to visit Skinners' Academy. Every single pupil was enthusiastic and gracious. They were asked to share ideas and thoughts and they did so with great enthusiasm and great energy .

Leon Davis, Entrepreneur



“ ”

I really enjoyed the session and meeting Mr Davis. It was a great opportunity and my team and I was happy to win the challenge.

Chinyere Ikey, Year 9

“ ”

It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to interact with an entrepreneur and present their business ideas to him. On behalf of the Business Department I want to say thank you to Mr Davis for taking the time to visit Skinners' Academy.

Miss Potter , Curriculum Lead for Business Studies

Insights in Law: Visit to Nabarro

The hardest working Business Studies pupils from Years 9 & 10 were rewarded with a trip to Nabarro, a top corporate law firm with offices in London, Sheffield, Brussels, Dubai and Singapore.

Pupils visited the offices for a tour and worked with lawyers to understand what characteristics, skills and qualifications they would need to make it as a top city lawyer.

Pupils also participated in mock interviews and got to question the lawyers on their current work. Senior staff from Nabarro praised the pupils on their positive attitudes, contributions to discussions and their immaculately smart uniforms.



Economics in Action at the Bank of England

On Friday 23 May, a group of Year 10 economics pupils who have expressed great interest in further study of the subject paid a visit to the Bank of England. In the BoE museum, pupils heard about the history of the Bank of England (including visual representations of how the cash notes and coins in the UK have changed over time) and also learnt about the Bank of England's significance in controlling inflation using interest rates. Recessions in the 1990s and more recently, 2008, were also part of the exhibition.

As part of the day, the pupils enjoyed the interactive element of decoding a safe that was in the exhibition with the knowledge learned throughout the tour as they answered questions using a booklet provided by the Bank of England. Overall, this opportunity allowed the pupils to gain deeper understanding of how economics affects our lives, helping to bring the theories learnt in the classroom to life.

Mr Amakye, Teacher of Business & Economics



Mathematics

UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge

On 1 May, 105 students sat the UKMT Junior Mathematical Challenge. The Junior Challenge is aimed at pupils in Years 7 & 8. The challenge involves answering 25 multiple choice questions in one hour and is sat in school under normal exam conditions.

Usually, the top 40% of pupils nationally receive a gold, silver or bronze certificate in the ratio 1:2:3 and each institution receives a Best in School certificate. Around 1200 of the highest scorers are invited to participate in the Junior Mathematical Olympiad.

This year, Umainah Ashif, Giorgi Pichkhaia, Argtim Ibisi, Alexander Brown-Llabres, Joseph Merino Barros, Abu Shohid, Miles Broomfield, Felix Brocklehurst, Charlie Pavlicic and Michael Layhe achieved a Bronze certificate.

Aren Caton Yener, Dylan Ball, Emer Sheffield, Selin Kilic, Ionut Tiplea, Luke McConville and Shafiq Raufi achieved a Silver certificate.

Mikolaj Krus and Rose Pepperday achieved a Gold certificate.

Selin Kilic achieved Best in Year and Rose Pepperday achieved a Best in Year and Best in School award.

Huge congratulations to those who gained a certificate and good luck for next year!

Hackney Maths Challenge

Each year all Year 7-9 classes compete in the school-based round of the Hackney Maths Challenge. In teams of four they calculate the answers to challenging worded problems. They get a point for every correct answer and can only get the next question once they have answered the previous one correctly. The team with the most points win and each team member receives a certificate.

Four pupils were then selected from each year group to represent Skinner's Academy at the final at Queen Mary University on 2 July, where they competed against other schools in Hackney.

Approximately eight schools from Hackney took part and all of them competed well. The Year 8 team managed to complete all of the questions. Congratulations to all pupils involved and those who attended the Challenge at Queen Mary, listed below:

Year 7: Ionut Tiplea, Sude Akdag, Deniz Koku, Rihana Ssesaazi

Year 8: Khadija Abumaye, Mikolaj Krus, Emer Sheffield, Joseph Merino Barros

Year 9: Judith Appiah-Nuamah, Berfin Kama, Tariq Raufi, Inan Sakar

Ms Ottway, 2iC & Teacher of Mathematics



Schools Fantasy League

This year Skinner's pupils and teachers had the opportunity to compete in the Schools Fantasy League. They were given a budget to create your own team and then had to manage it throughout the football season. They were allowed to make 5 transfers a month (quite generous!) and gained points according to appearances, goals scored, crosses, clean sheets etc. The winning managers are as follows:

3rd place: Mr Ali with his team '**3-Year-Project**'

2nd place: Miss Ottway with her team '**Ottway Owns It**'

1st place: Dogancan Aydemir, Year 8, with his team '**Legendz**'

Mathematics Masterclass

The Royal Institution has invited two of our best Year 9 mathematicians to attend a Mathematics Masterclass. **Congratulations to Mustafa Kulekci and Derek Nguyen!**

ICT & Computing

Understanding Computer Networks

Pupils studying computing in Year 9 have been finding out how computer networks work. Computer networks are perhaps the defining technology of 21st century living. Every phone call, email, social media post and web page is sent over a computer network of some kind.

We started by trying to work out how a network might work with a few rules and lots of string. Once we understood the basics of communication it was time to move onto the real thing.

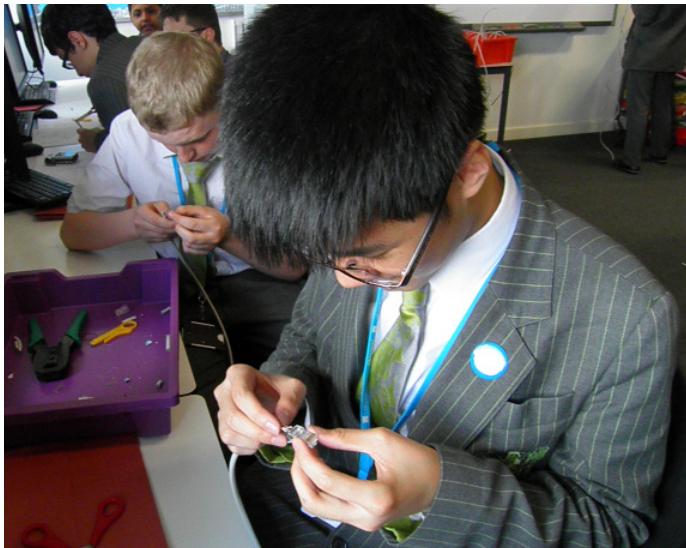
Over two lessons pupils made their own network cable and at least one is currently using it to run their home internet connection. After making the cables we used a simulator to understand how to configure a network and how messages are passed across it.

Mr Powell, Teacher of ICT & Computing

“ ”

Making an Ethernet cable ourselves was a great way to have a lesson on how it works, and it was definitely a new experience as we had never done anything like that before. We had to connect it to the power to see if it was able to function. This allowed us to see how the Ethernet cable works both inside and out. We gained a deeper understanding of the cable itself rather than simply knowing it connects to the internet without actually knowing any of the specifics.

Kevin Heridia Arango, Year 9

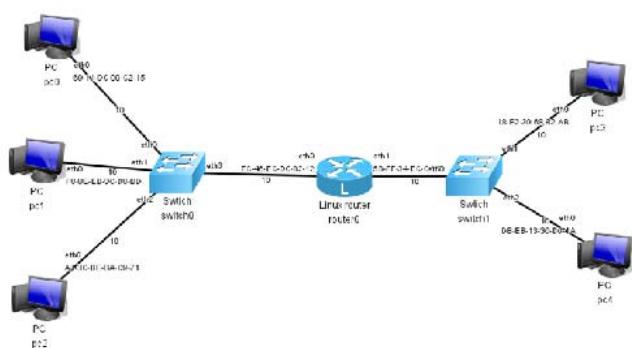


“ ”

These are real skills that are used by professionals in industry every day. It is important for pupils to feel a part of that, that it can be understood and is not some special magic. There is nothing more exciting than making something and seeing it work

Mr Powell, ICT & Computing Teacher

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Wireless LAN adapter Wireless Network Connection:
Connection-specific DNS Suffix . : default
Link Layer Link Layer Address : 00-50-56-00-02-16
Physical Address . . . . . : 00-50-56-00-02-16
DHCP Enabled . . . . . : Yes
Link Layer Connection Enabled . . . . . : Yes
Link-local IPv6 Address . . . . . : fe80::100-50%174c%7:6be1%12<Preferred>
    IPv6 Address . . . . . : 182.168.1.1<Preferred>
    Subnet Mask . . . . . : 255.255.255.0
    Lease Obtained . . . . . : 22-June-2158 01:58:24
    Lease Expires . . . . . : 22-June-2158 01:58:24
    Default Gateway . . . . . : 192.168.1.1
    DHCPv6 IID: . . . . . : 39481815b
    DHCPv6 Client ID: . . . . . : 00-50-56-00-02-16-47-E1-E8-E8-B7-39-2B-5B
    DNS Servers . . . . . : 192.168.1.1
    NetBIOS over Tcpip . . . . . : Enabled
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Year 7: Endangered Animals Information Kiosk – Woburn Safari Trip

In Year 7, pupils were required to research and learn about the issues surrounding endangered animals in order to be able to create an interactive information kiosk used to help educate others about the topic. The trip to Woburn Safari Park on 20 May provided some of our pupils with the opportunity to see and learn about the endangered animals so that they could be better informed about the topic when planning and creating their own interactive information kiosks. Pupils also had the opportunity to see the range of technology used in the safari park and had a great time playing on the slides in the Mammoth Play Ark. This was a fun and exciting trip for all those that went especially as we had the opportunity to see, up-close-and-personal, a beautiful tiger - but from a safe distance.

Year 7 pupils were given the opportunity to study a unit which helped them to understand the concept of creating an Interactive Information Kiosk as well as raising the awareness of endangered animals. They used and developed their ICT skills to turn their ideas into a functional kiosk used to provide information using computer technology. The Information Kiosk unit enabled pupils to:

- Explore matters concerning extinction and how this affects society and the world as a whole
- Use presentation software tools to provide access to information
- Develop and implement a good navigation structure to allow for easy access to the information provided
- Develop a good understanding and appreciation for the process of design

Ms Rao, Curriculum Lead for ICT & Computing

“ ”

When we played in the Mammoth Play Ark we exercised a lot and had fun doing it.

Lamia Osman, Year 7

“ ”

The most enjoyable part was when the monkeys jumped on the mini bus!

Berkan Ercer, Year 7

“ ”

This trip has really helped us with our understanding of endangered animals

Berdan Kartal, Year 7



Creative iMedia



We have introduced Creative iMedia to some of our Year 10 pupils, a subject particularly relevant for those interested in careers in the creative and digital media sectors.

This unit helps them to understand the process of planning and designing an interactive website for a given client. They have been developing their research, planning and design skills to develop a series of work leading to the production of an interactive multimedia website for an Eco Festival. The vocational / 'real world' approach to this unit allows pupils to cultivate varying employability skills (certainly worth adding to their CV as they build it) and enables them to:

- Understand the various stages of a project
- Identify and understand the importance of the client's needs
- Develop literacy skills to communicate their proposals for the interactive website
- Explore and understand the need to produce planning and design documentation for media
- Use planning and development tools to create a product to meet the needs of the client

“ ”

In Creative iMedia we are creating a website based on a fictional event called Eco-Fest. It is an interesting project and it will help me in the future.
Deandre Cheddingsingh-Smith, Year 10

“ ”

The project actually benefits me massively and helps build my confidence. Striving to achieve the best will have a huge impact for me in the real world. Dahyim Karim, Year 10



Modern Foreign Languages

Spanish through Sadler's Wells

On Tuesday 20 May, a group of Year 9 and 10 pupils who are studying Spanish went to see the highly acclaimed "Havana Rakatan" at Sadler's Wells theatre. This dazzling, high-octane Cuban dance show is one of Sadler's Wells most successful productions. Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the dancing and music and successfully learnt some Salsa moves at the dance lesson which followed the show.

Ms McKee, Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

“ ”

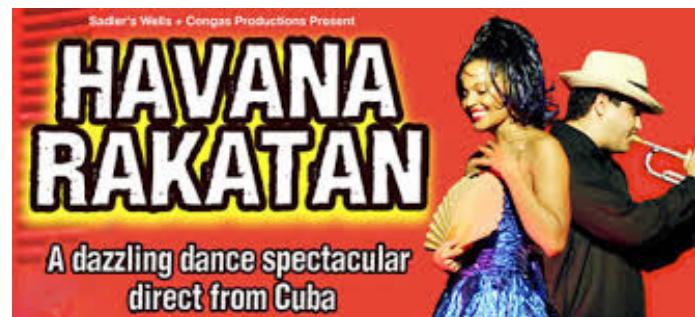
It was an amazing experience and I learnt a lot about Cuban culture.

Alish Dortgoz, Year 10

“ ”

I enjoyed the amazing bright lights and the good music. I learnt a lot about the culture and the revolution.

Sabah Hussain, Year 10



Voyage à France

If you ask any pupil of the Academy what they think about when somebody says "France", you will get several different answers. Paris, the Eiffel tower, and Disneyland are a few of the most popular ones.

In May our Year 8 pupils managed to skip the glitter and glamour of the Parisian streets in favour of the Northern city of Boulogne when they visited.

They did not saunter down the Champs-Elysées. Instead, they walked through villages and green pasturelands. They did not encounter fashion designers, but they spotted cows.

La belle France quickly took on airs of... Great Britain? And this is the beauty of Northern France: it is like England, except it is not really the same. Cars run on the right side and the Queen's portrait is missing from the banknotes... but the tasty pains au chocolat compensated for all this strangeness.

And the adventure got better: pupils crossed the Channel, saw sharks and enjoyed a sea lion show at the Nausicaa Aquarium. They also witnessed a poor chocolate bunny being cruelly pushed over into a pool of melted chocolate at a chocolate factory and made croissants at a bakery.

Travelling to Boulogne combined the excitement of discovering a different culture with the ease of strolling around in a familiar environment. France is like England, but on the other side of the Channel; it is abroad, but it feels like home.

Special thanks to the trip organiser: Liana Grosman.

Ms (Sarah) Wardi, MFL Teaching Assistant

“ ”

I liked the trip because I learnt a lot of things. I had great fun and hope it can happen again.

Maurice Diallo, Year 8



“ ”

I loved the trip because it was enjoyable and everyone had a laugh. It was very relaxing.

Piotr Kowalewski, Year 8



“ ”

The France trip is the best trip I have ever been on.

David Fehmiu, Year 8



Geography



Taking it to the next (academic) level at Edale

On 9 May 2014, Mrs Syme, Ms McKinstry, Mr Francis and 22 totally amazing GCSE geographers went to Edale Youth Hostel for a weekend in May to take part in the most UP CLOSE and personal Geography experience there is. We wanted to show our students what A-level Geography is like.

We went into deep dark caves and switched off all the head torches, we clambered through tiny gaps (well done Adam and Liam CB), we walked over hills and down dales in pouring rain and magnificent rainbows (well done Yolanta and Semmae), we climbed millstone grit cliff faces (well done Dogukan) and we played the world's biggest game of hide and seek (well done Kelell). We learnt to map read, take bearings, play scrabble and chase sheep (well done Jamike).

We ate fantastic food, catering to all tastes from vegetarian to halal. We managed intermittent signal (well done India) and long journeys. We understood the geology of the Peak District National park from above ground and below ground, from the top of the dale and the bottom of the valley.

We taught each other lessons about the Peak District National Park and the conflicts within it, we quizzed each other until we remembered amazing facts and then we played the best game of charades EVER.

We are really looking forward to going back, with next year's Year 10s, as an A-level taster.

Mrs Syme, Curriculum Lead for Geography

Geography in Brief

It has been a phenomenally busy and rewarding term for the Geography department:

- Our Year 10s braved the elements and took part in a Field trip to Hastings as part of their GCSE Geography controlled assessment. They collected data both on the beach and in the town and this will play a vital role in their controlled assessment.
- In July, 8Y2 showcased their work in Geography to a class of Year 4 pupils from our neighbours, Woodberry Down Primary School. The Year 8s had designed advertisement posters for holidays of the future and had to sell their holiday whilst being in competition with the rest of the class. The pupils showed excellent enterprise skills and many bargains were being hammered out towards the close of play. Year 4 pupils really took to the task and were keen for more money so that they could keep spending.
- Over 90 Year 8 pupils took part in a visit to Central London to look at the impact and role of tourism in our capital. They carried out surveys in Green Park and then enjoyed an open top bus journey through the Heart of our great city. Passing through Mayfair, Piccadilly, Trafalgar square, Westminster, The City and the Tower of London they witnessed 200 years of history.
- 30 Year 9 GCSE Geography pupils visited the Thames barrier - arriving in style by boat from Westminster. Along the way sights such as The Palace of Westminster, St Paul's Cathedral, The Shard and Docklands were seen. At the Thames Barrier pupils heard from speakers who explained the construction, inner workings and future of the barrier. This vital case study for their GCSEs was brought to life.
- A group of Year 7 pupils visited the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Orbit tower in Stratford. Earlier in the year, Year 7 had studied urban regeneration around the Olympic site and this was an excellent opportunity not only to see the changes that have taken place but also to assess the lasting legacy and impact of the games.

Mr Lyons, Teacher of Geography



Keep up to date with news from the Academy all year round through our varying communication channels - including:

Our website: www.skinnersacademy.org.uk

Twitter: @skinnersacademy

Facebook: www.facebook.com/skinnersacademyhackney

Look out for the Year 8 Geography Trip to Kench Hill

This year, Geography teachers Mrs Syme, Mr Lyons and Ms McKinstry went on an intrepid adventure together to Kench Hill, the Hackney Field studies centre, in Kent. A lot of you will know the venue if you went to a Hackney Primary School because many Year 6s visit. We want to take you back there for a Geography GCSE taster weekend next academic year.

We went to find out if it was true that the food is fantastic, the beds are comfortable and the Geography is fascinating. And it's all true. We've booked a weekend, ready to take 40 Year 8 geographers, in April 2015 to give you a taste of GCSE Geography. We will take Year 8 pupils who sign up to see salt marshes, sand dunes, sea defences, Rye Harbour, nuclear power stations, tiny steam trains, fields of solar panels, rivers meandering, spits curving and London's weirdest airport.

Please join us in April 2015 for what will be an amazing weekend.

Mrs Syme, Curriculum Lead for Geography



History

First World War Battlefields trip

On Friday 2 May, 85 Year 8 pupils set off at 6am to visit the First World War battlefields. This trip was part of the History department's study of World War One, at a particularly important time as the whole country begins four years of centenary events. From school we travelled by coach and ferry to arrive in Ypres. We visited the Menin Gate where many pupils were struck by the scale of the conflict and some were able to find relatives on the memorial. From there we went to examine an excavated trench to get a real sense of the type of fighting that was involved. The final stops were to both German and Allied cemeteries where pupils were really struck by the differences in how soldiers are remembered today.

Mr Stoneham, Curriculum Lead for History

“ ”

It was a very enjoyable experience, and I had a clear image of battlefields in our history lessons. It helped me increase my knowledge.

Umaimah Ashif, Year 8

“ ”

The trenches were quite dense and small broken down and mouldy, and this after the restoration, this meant the conditions must have been terrible at the time.

Miles Broomfield, Year 8



Diplomacy & debate: Participating in MUN

Model United Nations (MUN) is a simulation of the different United Nations organs and other forums of international relations and asks young people to take on the role of world leaders.

It aims to build an understanding of global challenges amongst young people that crosses borders of background, culture and nationality. Using both the knowledge, experiences and the relationships they form through MUN, it is hoped that the next generation of world leaders and thinkers will be able to work effectively to find solutions to future global problems that are compatible with the aims and principles of the United Nations and promote the spirit of cooperation.

Three Year 10 pupils took part in the first ever London-wide Model United Nations conference for secondary schools. Esin Akdogan, Leandra Logie-Clyne and Amel Mire were representing the Russian Federation at the one day event at Halcyon London International School and were hugely successful in all areas: researching, debating and public speaking. They were so good that Skinners' has already been asked to come back again next year - well done!

Mr Kenny, Teacher of History



“ ”

It was really good to see how an organisation like the United Nations works. It was very challenging but great fun at the same time.

Leandra Logie-Clyne, Year 10



MUN encourages the development of skills essential to all fields of study and employment, such as: strong leadership, initiative and expertise in public speaking; negotiation, mediation and consensus building; and the ability to form relationships rapidly with people of alternative backgrounds and viewpoints.

Science

Physics Experience Day at Cambridge

On 9 May, pupils selected to represent the Academy participated in a Year 9 'Physics Experience Day' at Cambridge University. Pupils had the opportunity to gain an insight into life in Cambridge with a tour of Clare College and of the city centre. Pupils then walked to the world famous Cavendish Laboratory, the home of the University's Physics department, to take part in lectures and seminars led by Cambridge academics.

We were delighted to offer our pupils such an exciting experience, and we are confident that they have gained a deeper insight into life at Cambridge University. Certainly, this will have an impact in their future aspirations and careers.

Dr Opoku-Ware,
Curriculum Lead for Science



The Pupil Perspective

Cambridge was like nothing I had ever seen before: the architecture, the people, the town and surprisingly there were cows in a park right in the heart of the city! Clare College was absolutely amazing! I spoke to Anthropologists, Engineers, Astrologists and scientific professionals throughout my visit: I was always very well informed about what Cambridge's courses are like, what their pastoral system is like and their stiff competition with my all-time favourite Oxford University. However, during my visit, I couldn't help but notice I had fallen in love with another part of England I had never seen in my life and an absolutely amazing place where my curiosity is almost over-fed and where intelligence is nurtured and appreciated, Cambridge is definitely my new all-time favourite...

Armend Bajraktari, Year 9



Music

Music Opportunity...

For £40 per half term, don't miss out on the opportunity to learn an instrument of your choice at Skinner's. Sessions will be led by professional tutors in our practice rooms, either one-to-one or group lessons depending on the instrument chosen.

Instruments may include the piano, guitar, brass, percussion, steel pans, and woodwind as well as singing lessons. Pupils are not required to have any previous experience and will be given the choice to learn for pleasure or to be formally assessed through examinations. **Make the most of your time here at Skinner's and embrace this opportunity!**

Learning Resources Centre (LRC)

Holly Smale Visit

Year 8 & 9 girls received a visit from Bestselling author of the Geek Girl series, Holly Smale. She spoke to them about being bullied at school and how this impacted her, the experience becoming the inspiration for writing the series about a girl who doesn't quite fit the 'mold'. Holly answered questions from the audience and then signed books sold on the day.

Selver Toygun won the Geek Girl competition which was judged by Ms Smale and received a free copy of the first Geek Girl novel.

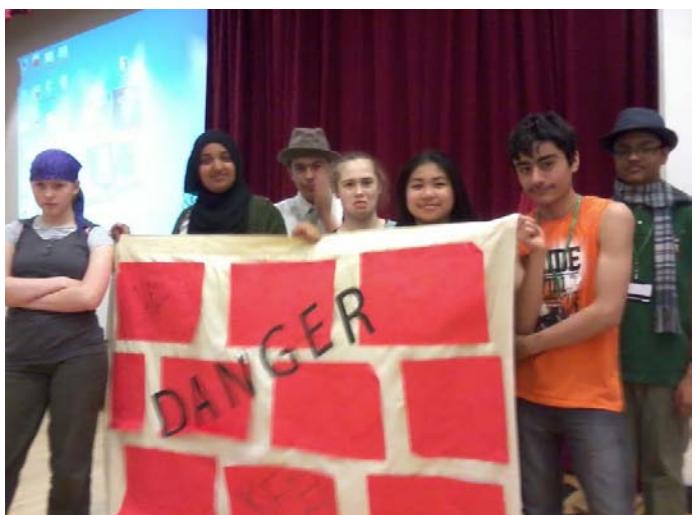


Hackney Carnegie Day

Secondary schools in Hackney celebrated the Carnegie Medal award by holding a Carnegie Medal Day of our own on Thursday 19 June. Young people from eight schools came together to discuss and present dramatized analyses on the eight titles short-listed for this year's medal, and had the opportunity to meet and talk one of the nominated authors.

Rose Pepperday, Tutku Daghan, Samira Abuu, Caitlin Lovick, Lucy Luong, Stalin Coutinho and Rohat Koz spent six weeks developing a short play based on the novel The Wall. They performed fantastically well against stiff competition and are to be congratulated for their stellar performance.

After the presentations pupils were able to hear nominated author, Katherine Rundell, author of Rooftoppers, speak about her experiences growing up in a variety of countries and how that led her to authorship.

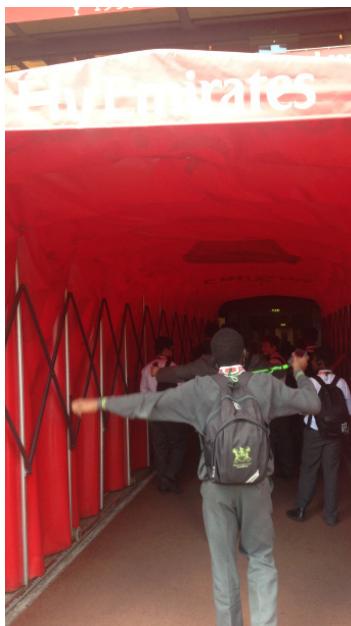


Tour of Emirates Stadium

The Football Reading Club, which meets during advisory every Friday morning, is made up of football fans who want to read and discuss their favourite sport. They research and read various sports news articles and then discuss and debate them as well as writing articles of their own. As a reward for their work the club went on a rewards trip to Emirates Stadium, home ground of Arsenal, on Monday 30 June.

The reward trip saw 15 pupils visit The Emirates Stadium for a self-guided tour. They were chosen and accompanied by Ms Phillips and Mr Uzodinma as a result of their ever growing, club, Football Reading; of which the 15 pupils have attended from start to finish.

Special thanks to Ms Phillips and Mr Uzodinma on organising the trip and well done to the boys who attended.



“ ”

My favourite part was when we got to go to the museum where we saw Arsenal's history which I especially enjoyed because I am a massive Arsenal fan

**Wesley Camara Baro,
Year 7**

Word Fest 2014

Skinner's Academy ran our literary festival, WordFest, for the second year from Monday 7 July to Friday 11 July. During the week we had a variety of visits, trips, activities and competitions designed to celebrate books and reading. Below is a sample of some of the many activities that happened. We also ran a visit to the Comics Exhibition at the British Library for Year 10, a Scratch Night where pupils perform their creative writing to an audience, and a poetry competition.



Poet Anthony Anaxagorou Visits

On Tuesday 8 July, the Academy was visited by celebrated poet Anthony Anaxagorou, who performed a reading of his work to a variety of year levels and ran a workshop with a group of pupils to develop their writing and creative skills.

Author Bali Rai

On Wednesday 9 July well known author Bali Rai visited the Academy. He ran a writing workshop for a select group of Year 9 & 10 pupils and then did a talk in the theatre for 200 pupils in a variety of year groups.

Book Swap

As part of WordFest, Skinner's ran its first Book-Swap where pupils were encouraged to bring in books they no longer read and swap them for another pupil's book. For those that didn't have anything to swap or who wanted to take more books than they had brought in, books could be purchased for 50p each, with the proceeds going to Read International. Much thanks to all those pupils, parents and staff who contributed books and especially to Scholastic who donated several boxes of books to help make the event a success.

Illustration Workshop

Published Illustrator, Sarah Gill, ran two workshops for Year 7 & 8 pupils who have an interest in drawing and art. She shared drawing tips and techniques and gave advice to those who were considering a career in illustration.

National Short Story Competition

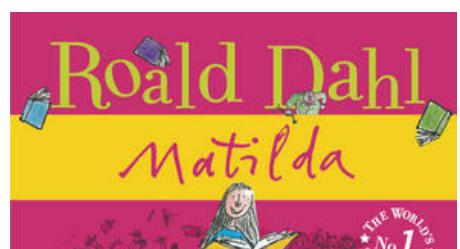
Congratulations to Year 7 pupil Sam Boyer who received a Highly Commended for his entry into the National Short Story Competition, entitled 'The Mistake'. To be selected for comment out of thousands of entries is a considerable achievement. Well done Sam!



Matilda

The Roald Dahl book club has been reading Matilda after school throughout the year and just finished it in time for the trip to see the stage show in the West End on Wednesday 25 June.

Yusra Shonis, Ionut Tiplea, Meher Kazmi, Guney Augin, Rose Pepperday, Selver Toygun, Rihana Ssesaazi, Shariya Barik and Amy Gonzalez enjoyed a fantastic performance of the children's classic novel.



English

Another First Story Success

First Story sessions began in October with Courttaia Newland, our professional writer-in-residence, running weekly workshops with our Year 9 & 10 writers. As always, I was astonished by the fantastic work produced in a relatively short period of time. Our regular 'Scratch Nights' were well attended; pupils shared their 'work in progress' with the group and got feedback from Courttaia and their peers. As January drew to a close, the young writers started to collate their work and began editing their best writing for inclusion in the anthology. By Easter, the draft anthology was ready to go and Wassim had even come up with a name for it (based on his experiences of people constantly misspelling his name). We even had time for a few trips and pupils travelled to Oxford for the First Story Festival, the Courtauld Gallery for a workshop inspired by famous works of art and a prize giving event to celebrate Jamike's success in the London School of Economics Poetry Competition. (see picture to the right)

One of the highlights of the year has been a new addition to the Skinners'/First Story partnership: Lower School First Story. As our Year 10 pupils were now fully fledged writers, they decided to run First Story sessions for Year 7 & 8 pupils.

Year 10 writers, now First Story Ambassadors, planned and ran weekly creative writing sessions for over 20 lower school pupils. The writing was so fantastic that we decided to include some of it in the First Story anthology. Skinners' Academy is the only school to have work from three different year groups in their anthology and shows how creative writing has become an important part of Academy life.

The grand finale of the First Story year was the official book launch, attended by the writers, family, friends, teachers and governors. I am extremely proud of all the talent displayed in our newest anthology 'My Life as a Typo' and would like to thank Courttaia, Mr Sillito and Ms Phillips for all of their hard work too. We have included a taste of some of the work in the anthology here (and more on the website) – we hope you enjoy reading it!

Ms Emma Merton, Teacher of English



My Life as a Typo

*My life as a typo,
It's better than it seems,
You'd call me a mistake,
But I'd call me free.*

*I'm not chained by grammar
or bound by syntax. I don't
belong to a genre; I'm free
to be anywhere I want. Sure
'they' try to 'cure' me from
the page, but there's no
punctuation to hold me back.
I'm me, the beauty behind
the wall that few even dare
to tread, even then mostly
by mistake. I have my own
name; I'm not a common
mistake but the typo that
can bring laughter to the
room.*

*I'm me as can be,
So very free,
Your limits are words,
Mine can't be seen.*

*By Kelell Davison-Thomas,
Year 10*



Design & Technology

Year 7 Endangered Animals Cushion Project

This year, Year 7 Design & Technology pupils completed a unit in Textiles entitled "Endangered Animals Cushions".

As part of the unit pupils had to research a variety of endangered animals and design related cushions which could be sold in a gift store to raise awareness of issues surrounding them. Students did a fantastic job and used a variety of Textiles techniques such as Batik, Embroidery and Embellishment to complete their cushion faces before finishing them on the sewing machine and stuffing to create a finished piece.

Pupils were told to imagine it was a competitive brief, i.e. that they were designers in competition with each other to come up with the best design ideas and as a reward they got to spend the day at Woburn Safari Park.

Big congratulations from the Design and Technology department to the following pupils who were selected for Best Designs and Best finished pieces and had a fantastic day out at the park.

Angel Abdulai, Jennifer Amisi, Shauna Booth-Gilbey, Timothy Busari, Teon Christian, Azhar Hanif, Deniz Koku, Ruvarashe (Angel) Mbanje, Jack Nation, Oznur Oz, Ibrahim Shaikh and Matthew Ungudi.

Studying Olympic Design at Lee Valley VeloPark

On 19 June, 20 Design & Technology went on an educational visit to the Lee Valley Velopark on the Olympic site.

Pupils explored the newly opened Lee Valley VeloPark which features exciting and engaging Design and Technology activities linked to functional spaces and buildings. In the first design and technology programme of its kind in the UK, students made observations and sketches about the design of the Velodrome. They also evaluated how design elements came together to create the interior look, feel and layout using group concept maps and spider charts.

The pupils were a credit to the Academy and department and came up with fantastic design ideas. Well done.

Ms Grecco-Addo,
Curriculum Lead for Design & Technology



“ ”

Woburn Safari Park was amazing. We went all around the park to see all the animals in the minibus, then we went on a trek by foot and saw seals, monkeys and many more types of animals. It was an amazing day and I am very happy to have won the design competition.

Shauna Booth-Gilbey, Year 7

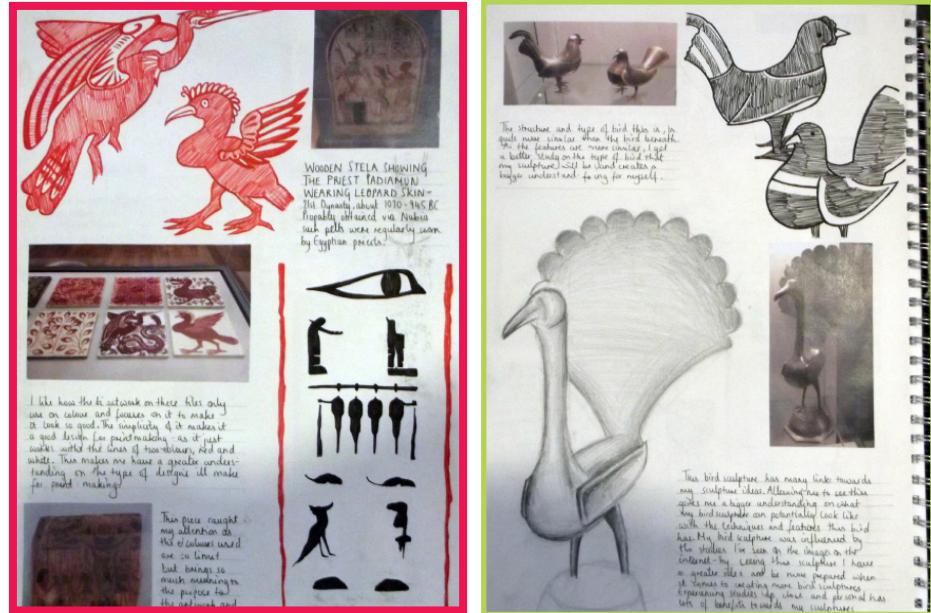


Art & Design

British Museum Trip

The Year 10 Art pupils visited the British Museum as part of their ongoing research relating to GCSE Art coursework. The pupils planned their own time and prepared for the visit by identifying which rooms they most wanted to spend time in. The work they carried out can be seen in their sketchbooks and this will ultimately result in outstanding final outcomes during next year.

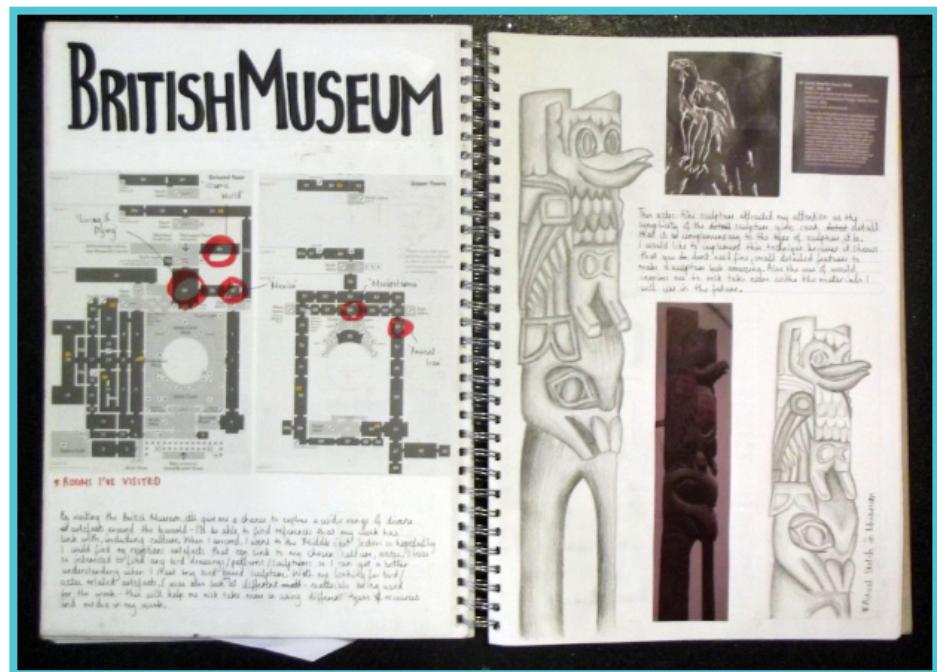
Mr Devlin,
Curriculum Lead for Art



“ ”

By visiting the British Museum, it gave me the opportunity to explore a wider range of diverse artefacts from around the world. I am now able to reference these in my coursework and make links with my own work. I spent most of my time on the visit in the Middle Eastern rooms and also looking at Aztec work. I was so interested to see the bird drawings and the many different patterns and sculptures. This will help me with ideas for my own bird sculpture I am currently planning. The use of materials was also inspiring and made me consider a range of different methods and materials in my work.

Tracy Tran, Year 10

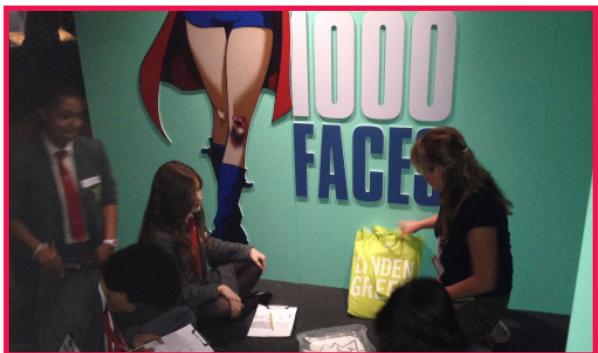
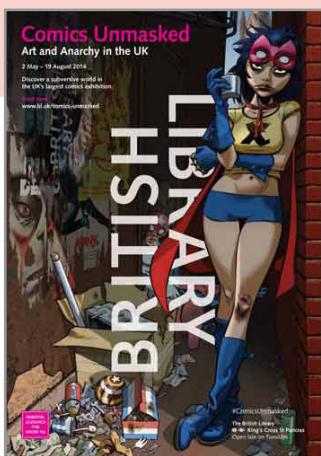




Comics Unmasked: British Library Visit

On 12 June our Year 10 Art & Design class went to an exhibition in the British Library called Comics Unmasked: Art and Anarchy in the UK. As someone who hasn't been very interested in comic books I was astounded to see just how much I got out of it. One of the best things about the exhibition was that we got an exhibition guide take us around and show us some of the highlights of the show. The exhibition was very open ended as it held a variety of different backgrounds on society, making it very interesting and so simplistic. There were comics all the way from government censorship and anarchy to the classic superheroes, which was great because it meant that there was a section that was suited for everyone. My favourite part by far was the politics section because it linked closely to my sketchbook and the things it taught hold great value. It held original copies some of the most famous comics of all time like V for Vendetta by David Lloyd and Alan Moore based on anarchy in the UK. It was very influential on my perspective on different forms of art.

Esin Akdogan, Year 10



“ ”

Our pupils had the opportunity not only to see the largest collection of comic art in the UK but also to take part in an artist led workshop, which enabled them to see comics in a new light; exploring themes such as the history of comics, gender, race, politics, violence and sexuality. I was impressed by the way our pupils engaged with exhibition and also by the positive contributions made during the workshop.

Mr Barton, 2iC & Teacher of Art & Design

Cultural Icons Project

See below for a couple of examples from a Year 8 cultural icons project where pupils involved worked on a piece which represented someone who is recognised by lots of people and/or represents an idea with great cultural importance. Pieces below are by Emer Sheffield (left) and Osborn Barnieh (right).

Ms Ali, Teacher of Art & Design



Drama

Barbican Box Project 2014

The Year 9 drama pupils have been involved in a project with the Barbican Theatre and world famous Complice Theatre Company. We have worked alongside one of their actors to learn the methods used by Complice to rehearse and devise plays. It has involved a lot of playing, thinking, doing and observing for key moments to create a piece of theatre. In May of this year we opened "The Box" - in which we found images, music, several bamboo canes and a ball. Since then we have been rehearsing in lessons and on Saturdays to create the piece of drama "Push/Pull" to describe the migration of people to London. Some of the stories are true, some of them are made up, but all of them come from the pupils' responses to "the box". It was performed at The Barbican, on the main stage, in July and deemed a great success.

Ms Patterson, Curriculum Lead for Drama



Nurture Group



A Year in Nurture: 2013-14

The nurture programme is designed to support students in the transition phase to secondary. It builds on foundation skills by revising primary objectives; allowing the students to develop at their own pace. It has been a busy and successful year and you can see some of what the group participated in below.

Ms Cotgrave, Curriculum Lead for the Nurture Group

Timeline

September 2013 – Group set up

December 2013 - Zoo trip

January 2014- Sales/ Shop Visit

March 2014 – Joint work with Speech and Language

May 2014 – Trundle Wheel experiment

June & July 2014 – Pond project

July 2014 – Myles Saunders-Bridet and Berkan Ercer ready to transition into Year 8

July 2014 – Nurture Rewards Trip to Southend-on-Sea

Farewells

Sadly, at the end of the 2013-2014 academic year we say farewell to a few colleagues, all of whom have played important roles in the life of the Academy. We thank them all for their tremendous contribution and wish them every success and happiness in the future.

It is my firmly held belief that the staff are our greatest asset and our ability to recruit and retain good staff is essential for our success. I am delighted that the large turn-over of staff which been an issue in the past for the Academy has now ended, and that each member of staff who is leaving has been successfully replaced.

Pat Jopek is our learning resources officer and is responsible for the Academy's reprographics and publicity material. She is, however, a qualified teacher, and she leaves us to return to the classroom as an art teacher.

Alexander Todd has been a key member of the English department and this year ran our BBC School Report; he leaves us to join a school with a large sixth form.

Emma Merton has been an outstanding teacher of English as well as our Gifted and Talented Co-ordinator; she leaves us to take up a position in an independent school in Scotland, where she studied for her first degree.

Keisha Ann Down has been an excellent Head of Year (currently of Year 8) but has sadly made the decision to return to Jamaica.

Sarah Patterson has been our Head of Drama and has done a great deal to interest pupils in the theatre both through her work in the drama studio and through numerous trips and workshops; she leaves us to take promotion as an Assistant Vice Principal.

Ben Bazell's departure from the Academy marks the end of an era. He began teaching at The Skinners' Company's School for Girls in 1991 on a supply basis and has remained with us, fulfilling a variety of different roles, ever since. His original qualifications were in drama and English, but Mr Bazell has also taught modern languages – he has studied French, German and Chinese and has an understanding of several other languages. Most recently he has taught sixth form health and social care and has given a great deal of his time to set up work experience placements for sixth form students. As many of you know, outside of School he is a professional actor and has worked for both the English Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre. We wish him well for the future and shall miss both his company and his many talents.

Sarah Redman has been on the staff for many years both at the Academy and at our predecessor school, The Skinners' Company's School for Girls. Over the years she has been promoted to be Head of English and, more recently, to be the Assistant Vice Principal with responsibility for assessment. She leaves us to take promotion in another school as Senior Assistant Vice Principal.

This year we have also said goodbye to six of our teaching assistants; **Zachary Clayton, Jennifer McBurnie and Thomas Sillito** left at half term whilst **Elliott Burcham, Keling Han and Maxwell Uzodinma** leave at the end of this term. I am delighted to report that nearly all (five) are leaving us to train as teachers and one (Elliott) will be doing a master's degree. It is a tremendous testament to the success of the Academy, and to both staff and pupils, that five of our classroom support staff have been encouraged to train for the teaching profession. We wish them well.

Mr Clark, Principal

Summer 2014: Things to do...

In the six weeks away from the Academy, there are LOTS of exciting things to stay active, engaged, build on varying skills and even pick up a new hobby.

Manor House PACT - Planting for Plenty and other exciting local initiatives. Visit [www.manorhousepact.org.uk](http://manorhousepact.org.uk)

Hackney Wicked Art Festival 1-3 August -www.hackneywicked.co.uk

Science Museum – fun exhibitions and events! - www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/visitmuseum



MyKindaCrowd - complete challenges from real employers online and get rewarded for your initiative. www.mykindacrowd.com



Futureversity. Futureversity believes all young people have the potential to be extraordinary. It provides free courses and activities for 11-25 year olds to help them develop the skills and self-belief they need to make the most of their lives. It runs over 150 inspiring spring and summer courses. www.futureversity.org



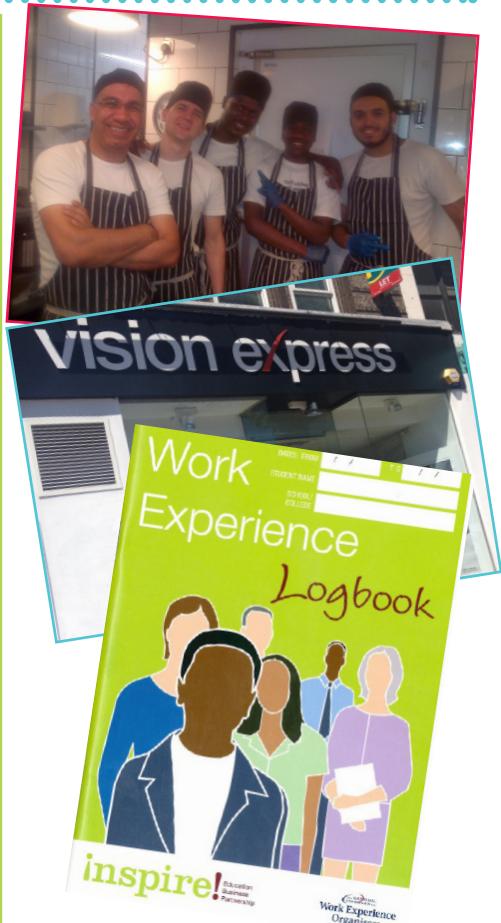
Focus on Work Experience

From Classroom to Corporation: Year 10 Work Experience

In our efforts to provide pupils with the best preparation for their academic life and the world of work thereafter, our Year 10 pupils went on work experience (WEX) from Monday 30 June to Friday 4 July – an important step in gaining that vital, first step on the employment ladder.

Pupils were strongly encouraged to find their own placements - reflecting their area of interest, and well done to those who did. For all other pupils, we allocated placements from a pool of opportunities provided by our work experience partners Inspire - and did so primarily based on interests (industry, activity, important transferable skill etc.) expressed by pupils themselves. Placements were at organisations including Linklaters, Future First, Hackney Central Library, Leon (see Brandon in picture above) Alert Kids Nursery, Toni & Guy, Peabody, University College Hospital London, Natwest , The National Archives, Primark, Urban Outfitters, Hackney City Farm... And many more!

This year's arrangements were a great success (and a bit of a learning curve too), and we are very proud to see our pupils' excitement when sharing their experiences and reflecting on what they have gained from this programme. Expanding and gaining evidence in relation to essential employability skills was evident and most significantly, most pupils have grown in confidence through being in professional environments and recognising that they can step up to important challenges out of their comfort zone. "Work experience is essential in discovering what you do and what you don't want to do in the future. It's the beginning of the process to establish career direction and pupils are encouraged to keep up the momentum - though finding further work placements as they progress through school." Mrs Visram, Careers Development Co-ordinator



"It was absolutely mind-blowing meeting the three Princes at once!"



Visit the Academy website for the full story about the unexpected way Yomade Aileru met Prince Charles, Prince William & Prince Harry as a result of his work experience.

WEX Anecdotes

Congratulations to Elijah Amponsah Dixon who impressed his colleagues at Clarke's, selling £725 of merchandise in his second day on the job and consistently surpassing targets set!

Tabassum Nusibhya was approached by an associate at Linklaters who has offered to be a professional mentor.

Esin Akdogan's entrepreneurial employer was incredibly impressed by her work ethic and said she'd employ her without hesitation.

Athena Srawley impressed the team at the Improvement & Development Agency by writing an excellent article about their annual conference.

TOP TIP:

Keep building experience through proactively finding experience opportunities in school holidays

“ ”

In an increasingly competitive market, employers are looking beyond simple academic achievement when considering applicants for a job or internship... many now expect to see evidence of other skills and achievements that boost someone's attractiveness as a potential employee.

The CBI

Work Experience: Pupil Perspective

“ ”

Working at London Borough of Hackney (LBH) – Corporate Business Support has been a great experience and definitely boosted my confidence. I received a warm welcome and it certainly made me feel like part of the family! I would like to go back there in the future, no doubt.

Mehmet Tas, Year 10

“ ”

Working at Tom's Bakery made me realise I am good at serving customers! I am proud to have been offered a summer job there and I will definitely go back. Maybe I will even consider a job in the hospitality & catering industry.

Tremayne Jordan, Year 10

“ ”

I'm eternally grateful for working at Trip-Space and the experience I had was priceless.

Jahmai Scott, Year 10

“ ”

I felt more independent whilst working at Linklaters, and got to prepare and deliver a presentation to 10-15 people at the end of my placement; it was a great opportunity!

Aafreen Jaffer, Year 10

“ ”

Working with MCD Textiles opened my eyes to all sets of different design-based jobs out there. I created 15 slides full of designs, all of my own! It really made me want to have a job in this industry in the future.

Connacht Sheffield, Year 10

“ ”

At Homerton Hospital I learnt how to test medical electronic equipment in hospitals, it was very interesting.

Morgan Forrester , Year 10

“ ”

Difficult tasks became easier to understand with practice. I used my verbal communication and time management skills throughout the week at Elsdale Street Surgery.

Jaden Hope, Year 10

“ ”

My time at the Southbank Centre was nothing less than fantastic. I understood how every show is set up and how the equipment should be operated and manipulated to make it as efficient as possible.

Milo Seaman , Year 10

“ ”

Working at the Cats Protection League was a lot of fun and now I understand how to be more active whilst working.

My employer was specifically looking for verbal communication, analysing and investigating skills, and I used these. I also learnt how to put other people before me and I am proud of myself for achieving my goals.

Mehmet Kivrakoglu , Year 10

“ ”

I am proud of myself because whilst at Arcola Theatre I developed skills I did not know I had.

Oreoluwa Shoyinka , Year 10

Physical Education (P.E.)

Great Yarmouth Football Tour

The Great Yarmouth football tour started on Friday 2 May and lasted the whole weekend. We arrived on Friday night and as the football began the next day, we managed to explore the area. Firstly, we went to the beach for two hours to play beach football alongside other year groups (organised by Mr Uzodinma) and we then went to our accommodation named "Pontins", where we were allowed to explore in the evenings. Whilst exploring, we found activities such as pool, swimming, mini golf, go-karting and an arcade centre.

Dinner was at 6pm, the food was an excellent buffet with a wide variety of food to choose from. There was also a similar buffet for breakfast. At 8 o'clock every night we all went down to the hall for some entertainment. The football began on Saturday and those reviews are below...

Reinako Jones, Year 9

London Mini Marathon 2014

From London's Old Billingsgate to the Mall, totalling 3 miles, over 1500 young people from all over the UK participated in the London Mini-Marathon on 13 April 2014. Forty-two runners represented Hackney, including our very own Atlas Turl, who finished with a time of 18m.10 (3rd place in Hackney) in the 'Under 15 Boys' category. Congratulations!



Year 9 match review

After breakfast we went to the pitches. In the first game, within 5 seconds Reinako gave a beautiful left footed ball to Eren Kinalli which he buried to score our first goal. The team destroyed the opposing team's defence and scored again from the edge of the box with a Soulaiman assist. The match ended 3-1. We then went on to win the next game, which ended 1-0. However, we lost the last game of the day, 2-1.

We returned to the pitches on the following day. Our first game was a 1-0 win, followed by a 4-0 win which took us into the final. For the final game the Year 7 and 8 teams arrived to support us. It was a close match. The opposing team were strong and they got a lucky goal with 6 minutes left of the game.

Reinako Jones, Year 9



Hackney Netball League Results

Results:

Years 7, 8 & 10 came 3rd
Year 9 came 2nd

Congratulations to all year groups who played very well all season regularly turning up for training and were committed to setting high expectations for themselves and safeguarding a position in the top 3 this year!

They all demonstrated good team spirit and displayed sportsmanship towards other players and their coaches. Well done to all four teams.

Ms Hobbs,
Curriculum Lead for P.E.

Year 8 match review

On Saturday and Sunday we woke up early for the matches of the day. All teams did very well, and on the first day the Year 8 team won, drew and lost a game in their three matches. On the following day before the matches, the Year 8 pupils went swimming, it was very exciting and we all enjoyed it. Year 8s then went off to support the Year 9 team who reached the finals. We then played our final three matches. We won the first which meant we were in the running for a spot in the finals, but unfortunately, we had to settle for a third and fourth place play-off spot which we felt we should have won. All in all we had a successful tournament.

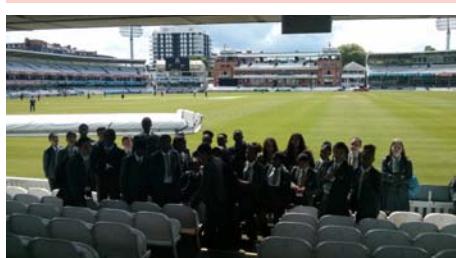
Samori Johnson, Year 8



Lords Trip

On 3 May, 36 Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils were rewarded for their year round participation in extra-curricular clubs with a trip to the home of cricket, Lords. Pupils were invited to watch the inter-services T20 tournament featuring teams from the Army, Navy and RAF. Despite rain stopping some play, pupils enjoyed exploring the historic ground and a chance to take in some high level cricket.

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE



Primary Schools Project

In June, our Year 9 boys and girls Distinction Sports Leaders ran a Primary Schools event which was a great success. Congratulations to all involved.



Hackney Football Champions!

Our Year 7 football team is the Hackney and Tower Hamlets league champions. This is the first time Skinners' have won the football league and we're so proud of the team that worked hard to achieve this success. Congratulations boys.

Mr Howe, Teacher of PE



Sports Day

On 10 July, Skinners' Academy's annual Sports Day took place in Finsbury Park.

The weather wasn't kind so the day was stopped before all events were complete however the sports men and women, supporters and organisers are all to be commended. Congratulations to all involved.

Ms Hobbs, Curriculum Lead for P.E.



Hackney Borough Athletics - Year 9

On Thursday 1 May, fourteen Year 9 pupils represented Skinners' Academy at the Hackney Borough Athletics Championship at Mile End Stadium.

Despite the wet and cold weather conditions, there were excellent performances by: Peter Onuba (gold) in the shot put, and (silver) in the 100 metres; Montel Kwatiah (bronze) in the 100metres; Eren Kiniali (bronze) in the high jump, Chi Chi Ikey (silver) in the triple jump and the boys' 4x100m relay team who won a bronze medal (Peter Onuba, Montel Kwatiah, Javaughn Eccleston, Eren Kiniali)

The following week, on 8 May, 28 Year 7 and 8 pupils represented the Academy at the Hackney Borough Athletics Championship. The standout performers were Emily Hauca who won gold in the 300 metres, and Salise Buldu who won gold in the javelin. For the boys, Kane Elkin won a bronze medal in the 1500 metres.

Well done to all that contributed!



Academy in Pictures

