December 2022

Autumn Term Issue 34



# academy newsletter



The autumn term has started well with pupils quickly adapting to our recent cultural reset on behaviour. I am especially grateful to staff for their dedication and continued support, and for ensuring that pupils have had a strong start to the academic year.

This term we held our annual Prize Giving ceremony in November; celebrating pupil progress, Year 7 pupils embarked on a adventurous, activity filled trip to Wales, and we received several beautifully designed cards for our Christmas Card competition (winning design above). As you read through the pages of this newsletter you will be impressed with just how much more we have squeezed into our first term.

A special mention of this year's Black History Month programme which saw us deliver four weeks of activities, welcome several guest speakers, and celebrate black history and culture at the Academy.

Finally, as we prepare to say goodbye to 2022 I wish you a happy and healthy Christmas and look forward to welcoming all our pupils back in 2023.

With very best wishes,

Shereka James Principal, Skinners' Academy



Hemis

#### Christmas Hampers

Christmas cheer has arrived at Skinners' Academy. Ms Benjamin, Ms James and Mr Alalade introduced a new initiative to celebrate the festive season. Six families were chosen at random to receive Christmas hampers (including a full Christmas dinner).

Next year it could be you!! Happy Christmas

Ms Benjamin; Teacher of Health and Social Care







#### Year 7 Visit Wales

Year 7 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their residential trips to Wales in November.

This was a great opportunity to get to know other pupils and staff, whilst taking part in some fun and challenging activities.

I was really impressed with all pupils who braved the caves, showing great resilience by pushing themselves out of their comfort zones. Pupils also took part in a mountain walk, treasure hunt, night walk, and egg challenge.

A big thank you to all the staff who gave up their time to go on the trip.

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE/HOY7













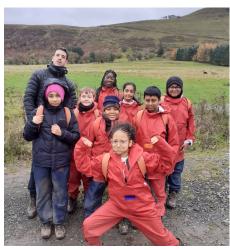
















### Prize Giving 2021-2022

#### **Prize Giving Celebrations**

On 17 November, Skinners' Academy held our annual Prize Giving ceremony, celebrating the fantastic achievements of our pupils during the 2021-2022 academic year. This year we saw the return of our Alumni, Esin Akdogan, who left Skinners' in 2017 to read history at the University of Oxford. Esin delivered an inspirational speech, sharing all the opportunities she was given during her time at Skinners' Academy.

Guests were welcomed into the ceremony with a range of beautiful piano pieces played by Ken W, Year 11. Throughout the evening we were treated to musical performances from the school choir, steel band, and a special rendition of Hideaway by Grace VanderWaal played on the Ukulele by Maya H, Year 10. Prizes were presented by the Master of The Skinners' Company, Mr Hubert Ashton and were awarded to pupils for progress in subject areas, overall academic achievement and services to the Academy (in honour of Ms M Jackson who passed away last year).

This year's Skinners' Way prize was awarded to Tiayan P, Year 8, for holding the Academy's core values in high regard and demonstrating them consistently and to the highest standard.

Subject Prizes Key Stage 3 (Year 7, 8 & 9)





Prize for Overall Academic Achievement		
Sara Karbiche	Year 7	
Khadija Senghor	Year 8	
Holly Leeming	Year 9	

Melanie Jackson Prize for Services to the Academy		
Umut Rafid	Year 7	
Ichita Nakashima	Year 8	
Jasmine Joseph	Year 9	
Jasmine Joseph	Year 9	



All Prize Giving photos were taken by Naturella M, Year 13

#### **English** Sara Rageh Year 7 **Mathematics** Nadia Seifelislam Year 7 Ellie Perryman Year 8 Science Fares Salah Year 7 Art & Design Julia Kaniewska Computing Year 8 Sara Didek Year 8 Design & Technology Angelina Palumbo Year 7 Drama Paulina Bedoya Loaiza Year 8 French Clifford Panganiban Year 8 Geography Year 9 History Tyson Huynh Music Regina Iyang Year 8 **Physical Education** Llewellyn Porter Year 9

**Religious Studies** 

**Spanish** 

AMDA



Yusra Ali

Ozora Chukwu

Chanel M'Bokolo

Year 9

Year 8

Year 8



Subject Prizes Key Stage 4 (Year 10 & 11)		
English	Roshan Singh	Year 10
Mathematics	Bilal Karbiche	Year 11
Science	Maimuna Jama	Year 10
Biology	Ken-Wei Lu	Year 10
Chemistry	Ngozi Osuji	Year 10
Physics	Harold Oliveira Nery	Year 10
Art & Design	Natalia Heinrich	Year 10
<b>Business Studies</b>	Mercedes Xavier	Year 10
Computer Science	Ali Berk Ilbahar	Year 10
Creative iMedia	Jermaine Carvajal-Vargas	Year 10
Drama	Gloria Sebastiao	Year 10
Economics	Krystian Sokalski	Year 11
Food Technology	Charisma Achina	Year 10
French	Kyren Facey	Year 11
Geography	Tate Glasgow	Year 10
Health & Social Care	Shadana Khader	Year 10
History	Melisa Ansari	Year 11
Media Studies	Christivie Bwana	Year 11
Music	Michael Green	Year 11
<b>Physical Education</b>	Marab-Sha Jami	Year 11
Psychology	Sebastian Chamorro	Year 11
Religious Studies	Amira Ahmed	Year 10
Resistant Materials	Sally Homan	Year 10
Sociology	Zareenah Boksh	Year 10
Spanish	Nicole Lemos-Betancourt	Year 11
Textiles	Chiamaka Onwuli	Year 10
Travel & Tourism	Ivan Ghiumiusliu	Year 10
LAMDA	Mateo Carmona	Year 11

Prize for Overall Academic Achievement	
Caitlin Alsford	Year 10
Vedika Sandeep	Year 11

Melanie Jackson Prize for Services to the Academy		
Davine Boakye-Kwateng	Year 10	
Nissi Aboagye-Kumi	Year 11	









Subject Prizes Key Stage 5 (Year 12 & 13)		
English	Neelam Kaur	Year 13
Mathematics	Jordan Kindo	Year 13
Biology	Zeynep Tuysuz	Year 12
Chemistry	Aadil Karwa	Year 12
Physics	Nicholas Layhe	Year 12
Art & Design	Bruno Lopes De Carvalho	Year 13
<b>Business Studies</b>	Hisham Ramjaun	Year 13
Business BTEC	Samet Sert	Year 13
Computer Science	Batuhan Elmadag	Year 12
Digital Media	Reice Chambers	Year 13
Economics	Zafar Shohid	Year 12
French	Jamil Muteba	Year 13
Government & Politics	Rachel Asare	Year 13
Health & Social Care	Brandi Pitter	Year 12
History	Yasmin Ali	Year 13
Media Studies	Delal Polat	Year 13
Physical Education	Jia Chow	Year 12
Psychology	Yaseer Mohammad	Year 12
Sociology	Oliwia Fikiel	Year 12
LAMDA	Diamond Gillespie	Year 13

Prize for Overall Academic Achievement	
Ellie Lloyd	Year 12
Victor Avgin	Year 13

Melanie Jackson Prize for Services to the Academy		
Naturella M'Bokolo	Year 12	
Zoe Larbi	Year 13	





### Sixth Form



## **Academy Production**



## Black History Month 2022







### Jade LB & Nancy Adimora

On 5 October, we welcomed the award-winning Jade LB, author of 'Keisha The Sket'. She was also featured in the recent Stormzy video 'Mel Made Me Do It'.

We staged a Q&A with Jade with interviewer Nancy Adimora, a influential publishers at Harper Collins, Nancy also has a literary magazine called 'Afreada' featuring stories from the African Diaspora.

Our students were truly inspired by our guests' stories; both were presented with a Skinners' Academy Black Heroes Award.

#### Celebrating Black Excellence

This year for Black History Month (BHM), Skinners' Academy decided to celebrate a week early due to the half term falling on the last week of October. This year's theme was TIME FOR CHANGE: ACTION NOT WORDS.

Throughout the month at Skinners' we focused on BLACK EXCELLENCE! We welcomed a wide range of inspirational guests who personified Black Excellence (read more about them on the following pages).

At lunch, pupils and staff were treated to alternating African and Caribbean themed dishes throughout the month. Needless to say, this went down a treat with our diverse ethnic community and we give thanks to our catering team.

We brought our #BHM2022 programme to a close with a beautiful lunch time performance from our steel band. Although Black History Month has come to an end it is important to continue to tackle racism, reclaim Black history, and ensure Black history is represented and celebrated all year round. We will always aim to do this at Skinners' Academy.

Thank you to this year's organisers of BHM at Skinners', Ms Laurent; Teacher in Charge of Media Studies, Ms Benjamin; Teacher of Health and Social Care, and Ms Jackson; Careers Lead. All three brought BHM to life at Skinners' Academy.









#### Venessa Taylor

On 7 October we had Venessa Taylor, Author of Baller Boys, deliver an assembly to our Year 7 & Year 8 pupils about her newly found career as an Author and her journey to getting there, whilst dealing with her diagnosis of Leukaemia.

Baller Boys is The People's Book Prize winner 2021 for Children's literature and was shortlisted for the Diverse Book Awards 2021 children's category.

The ethos behind the book is to encourage all children to fall in love with reading through books and stories that reflect them and their communities, that are representative of their lives, and that inspire all children to exercise their bodies with sport, and their brains with books. 'Baller Boys is a great children's read.' It is not just about football; it is about children and their possibilities. centred around the players in a grass roots football team, it follows the journey of two friends from trial day to selection, where only one of them makes the main team and the other does not and what happens when feelings of jealousy and belonging surface.

Baller Boys has been the No1 best-selling children's book in the sports fiction category and has received many 5-star reviews about its authentic story lines, diverse characters and how it deals with many of the issues our children face such as ADHD, wearing glasses, living with asthma etc. Baller boys was the October recommended read by Book Trust in the categories of 'Best new book' and 'BAME book' to read. It was also included in this year's Children In Need campaign, they auctioned of books donated by celebrated authors and illustrators from around the world.





#### Bringing Ludi to Skinners'

Thank you to @longliveludi for providing the Academy with two beautiful custom made Ludi boards.

Ludi is a extremely popular board game in Jamaica and is played by all. As the rules are passed down through the generations they tend to vary from person to person but you can always garuntee that playing ludi will be enjoyed by all and will bring out everyone's inner competitor.

If you would like to get your own Ludi board please contact @longliveludi and quote Skinners' Academy (you may get a discount!)

### Laurie-Anne Power & Adina Ezekiel

On 13 October our hopeful future lawyers welcomed a visit from Barrister Laurie-Anne Power, and a former Skinners' Girls pupil, Judge Adina Ezekiel as part of our #BHM2022 programme.

Laurie & Adina, both members of the King's Council, shared their journey as black women within Law and offered their advice to students.





#### David Lammy MP

On 14 October a group of our Year 11 boys welcomed a visit from the MP for Tottenham, David Lammy as part of our #BHM2022 programme.

Mr Lammy, who is currently the Shadow Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs, shared with pupils his journey into politics and the choices he made to get him where he is today. After sharing his story with us, Mr Lammy was presented with a Black Heroes award by one of our pupils as recognition for all his work in the local and neighbouring communities.











#### BHM Workshops

As part of our #BHM2022 programme, pupils travelled to our local youth hub, the Edge, where they engaged in a wide range of workshops.

Pupils took part in a session focusing on empowerment and self-esteem, learnt some new skills in flow martial arts, took part in a perspective drawing and graffiti masterclass, explored the healing world of crystals and experienced a kinetic tarot reading.

Thank you to everyone who delivered a workshop.





#### Bazil Meade MBE

On 19 October, Bazil Meade MBE, founder and director of The London Community Gospel Choir (LCGC), visited our Year 12 students as part of our #BHM2022 programme.

Bazil, a charismatic singer, pianist, and music director, has been in the music industry for over three decades. He alongside the prestigious LCGC have performed at numerous events including Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee, and the wedding of Harry and Meghan.

Bazil shared his journey with our students and ended the session with a beautiful solo performance. We presented Bazil with a Black Hero Award to recognise all the positive work he has done for the black community within the British music industry.

#### Diane Abbott MP

On 19 October our final guest as part of our #BHM2022 programme was Diane Abbott, MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington since 1987. Diane Abbott is the first black woman elected to Parliament, and the longest-serving black MP in the House of Commons.

Diane delivered an inspirational talk to our Year 12 students. Students appreciated her legacy and her dedication to serving her community. Diane has always been an advocate for black children in education, in recent times she has led two forums to discuss ChildQ and to give the public and some of our own staff a safe space to air their concerns

Diane was presented with a Black Heroes award as recognition for all her work in the local and neighbouring communities.







### Careers







#### **BBC Share Your Story**

On 21 September, Skinners' Academy welcomed ambassadors from the #BBC100ShareYourStory project as part of the BBC's centenary celebrations (Celebrating 100 years of the BBC)

The event was hosted by BBC Radio 1 and Kiss FM Presenter/DJ Alex Mansuroglu @alexmansuroglu who kept our pupils truly entertained throughout. Alex introduced our BBC Ambassadors Jacqueline Shepherd @jaxxsheps and Anastasia Stankovsky @galaxita who shared their inspirational journey with pupils, in a bid to inspire them through the power of storytelling. Their unique and powerful stories highlighted to pupils that no matter your background, you can achieve anything. Alex then passed the mic to our pupils who had an opportunity to ask questions and to find out more about each ambassador – including their story and careers.

Finally, pupils were also introduced to BBC's Young Reporter! Each session has been developed to support both the Careers & PSHE curriculum in goal setting and overcoming obstacles. It also benefits the English curriculum through the power of storytelling.

#### More about our BBC ambassadors;

Jacqueline Shepherd is a Presenter with the Radio London team. She spoke about the grief of losing her Mum, and how making a radio documentary about this has helped her heal.

Anastasia Stankovsky is an Assistant Producer in Archives. She shared her story of moving to the UK and the challenges she faced whilst building her career.

#### Arsenal FC Career Talks

As a part of the Year 13 PE BTEC course, students are introduced to the numerous and varied career and job opportunities within the sports industry.

Students have been working closely with Arsenal FC and have met a number of professionals who work at the club who have helped them to think of what pathway they can take after they leave school. The class met with Derry Hart; Arsenal U9's Head Coach, Rose Glendinning; Arsenal Women's Team Physiotherapist and Brian Matovu; Arsenal's Clublink Officer and Qualified Sports Journalist.

The Arsenal employees have been amazing at engaging our students and giving them ideas of careers pathways, how to write CVs and what future qualifications they can pursue.







#### Osborne Clarke Careers Inspiration Panel

In September, Year 12 students took part in a 1-hour session introducing them to Osborne Clarke. OC employees with different specialisms, backgrounds and educational routes shared their career journeys so far. They answered questions posed by students to help work out their future paths. Osborne Clarke (OC) is an International legal practice, with offices situated in Europe, Asia and the USA.

#### Seamus, Associate Director

Seamus is an Associate Director in the Corporate team at Osborne Clarke, specialising in Private Equity. Seamus advises Private Equity investors, selling shareholders and management teams on all aspects of private equity buyouts, including acquisition, disposals, investments and management advice.s.

#### Verity, Associate Director

Verity is an Associate in Osborne Clarke's Commercial Team. Based in London, Verity trained with Osborne Clarke and qualified in 2019. Verity is a commercial lawyer with particular interest in the Technology, Media and Entertainment sector, providing commercial and pragmatic advice on a range of issues, including: advertising & sponsorship, broadcasting and digital regulatory issues and consumer, e-commerce and privacy law compliance.





#### O&A

Name: Seamus (S) & Verity (V)

#### A mini bio of your journey into your current job:

S: After studying Law with French at The University of Birmingham, including a year studying French Law at Université Assas Paris II, I went on to complete my legal practice course before undertaking my training contract at DLA Piper LLP. After a year of working as an Associate in the Corporate team, I moved to Osborne Clarke where I began to specialise in Private Equity. I have been at Osborne Clarke for almost seven years now and have progressed from Associate to Senior Associate and two years ago was promoted to Associate Director.

V: I studied history at the University of St Andrews and then spent a year teaching English in a small town in Germany. After deciding I wanted to be a lawyer, I applied for and was lucky enough to be offered a training contract at Osborne Clarke. They sponsored my legal conversion course and legal practice course at BPP University in London. After qualifying, I joined Osborne Clarke's Commercial team, where I advise tech companies on advertising, consumer and data protection law. I have also spent three months as a legal secondee at Discovery Inc, now Warner Brothers Discovery.

#### What advice would you give our students who want to study Law at University?

S:Think about why you are choosing to study law and whether you are doing it because you are genuinely interested in the subject. Law is a time intensive course and involves significant time spent reading and studying, even before the course has begun. Gone are the days that you have to study law to become a lawyer and often law firms prefer to take on trainees who haven't studied law as they believe they have a more simplified understanding of law which helps with their communication of legal issues to clients. There is also a view that non-law students who have studied a subject which genuinely interests them are often more well-rounded candidates and can offer something slightly different. If you have another subject that you find more interesting, go with that.

V: Having not studied law at university, I can't advise on what it's like! I would recommend that students wanting to go to university choose a subject that they are interested in and enjoy. This may be law or something else entirely! I'd also recommend taking any opportunity available for legal work experience to find out if it's right for you!

#### Why would you recommend the Apprenticeship route into becoming a solicitor?

S: University is not for everyone and often the costs can be prohibitive. It is not necessary to go to university to become a lawyer. The Apprenticeship route allows you to gain vital on the job, practical training, whilst being paid but also gives you the opportunity to gain a university degree over a 5 year period. Law firms are going to be taking on more and more apprentices as it becomes a more recognised and respected route to becoming a qualified solicitor. If I was a school leaver this year, it is something that I wold genuinely consider as an alternative to going to university.

V: Apprenticeship routes into law are a great way of learning on the job and finding out if the career is right for you, whilst getting paid! I would definitely look into opportunities in legal apprenticeships if I was hoping to enter the legal profession now.



The Careers Portal is your hub for information including:

Post 14 & 16 Pathways **Apprenticeships Current Opportunities Careers Interviews University Guidance** and more...

**Careers Provision page** 

**CLICK HERE** to access our Careers Portal. It can also be accessed via our website's (www.skinnersacademy.org.uk/careers-provision)



**Bloomberg Insight** Day

On 4 November, Year 13 students attended an insight day at Bloomberg's London office. Bloomberg delivers business and market news, data, analysis, and video to the world; featuring stories from Businessweek and Bloomberg News.

The day consisted of the following:

- What is Bloomberg
- · Introduction into the Financial market
- Apprenticeships Bloomberg offer
- A Q&A panel of current Bloomberg Apprentices (Data, HR, Engineering, CAMS & Finance)
- Session on Personal Branding
- Tour of the Bloomberg office
- Network Session

Many of our students and staff members commented on the beautiful architecture of the building which won the 2018 Stirling prize for the most environmentally friendly office building.

- What is Bloomberg
- Apply for an Apprenticeship at Bloomberg
- Apply for an Internship at Bloomberg



#### Work Experience – SMBP at Osborne Clarke

Well done to the following students who were selected to take part in this year's SMBP work experience programme at Osborne Clarke (OC):

- · Havin C, Year 13
- Yagmur Y, Year 13
- Kelly D, Year 13
- Irem H, Year 12
- Kareena K, Year 12
- Zeynap A, Year 12

The students participated in a three-day work experience at Osborne Clarke's London Office over the October half-term holiday. They learnt about the firm, found out first-hand what OC's lawyers do in their roles, and developed a better understanding of routes into working in a company like OC.

Students heard from OC's business support roles (e.g. HR, Communications, IT, Risk and Compliance). Participants were assigned a buddy, so they got to network with staff at OC and ask any career questions. Students also took part in a realistic project led by some of the OC lawyers on the legal aspects of cyber security.

This opportunity was provided to us by The Social Mobility Business Partnership, a volunteer group working with 150+ organisations to enable young people to take part in work experience programmes in large corporate companies.

### **SEND**



#### Bowling at Rowan's

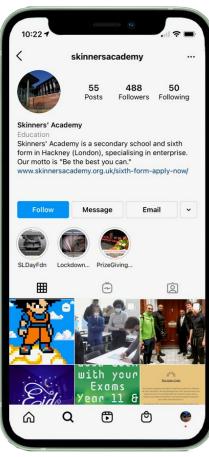
A few of our SEN pupils were invited by Hackney Learning Trust to their annual bowling trip to Rowan's Bowling Alley, in Finsbury Park.

It was great to see pupils from other schools, some with hearing and visual impaired needs, all coming together for an exhilarating day filled with fun. Certificates were given to each pupil who participated in bowling. After the certificates were given, everyone was treated to pizza for lunch.

It was so lovely to be part of this event and to see our pupils do amazingly well with their achievements, all going beyond expectations.

Ms Sessa, SEND Teaching Assistant





### Mathematics





#### Maths as Art

Jonathan AG, Year 8, has been enjoying his Monday after school club 'Maths as Art'. He says he finds this activity very interesting and relaxing. Jonathan has been busy with making totally amazing tessellations (blue & pink work), colourful creative protractor art, and fascinating Fibonacci Circle art! He is looking forward to working on some of these artistic ideas.

Ms Agarwal, Teacher of Mathematics



### Art

#### Treasure Island Set Design

Our most talented Year 8 & Year 9 art pupils have been working hard to create the set for this year's Academy Production, Treasure Island!

Mr Hodierne, Teacher of Art

6677

It's exciting that my artwork will be on display in the Academy's Production, Treasure Island!

Megan A, Year 8



#### Hama Beads Club

On Monday after school, 20 Year 7 & Year 8 pupils come to Hama Bead Club. They design lots of colourful flowers, film characters, animals and so much more. Once they've been ironed, we turn them into key rings or magnets for our pupils to take home at the end of the day.

Ms Barnett, Art/Design & Technology Technician

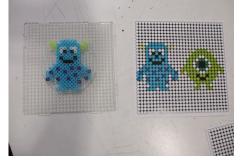












## Christmas Card Competition

Well done to all pupils who entered this year's Christmas Card Competition, there were some amazing entries. The winning design was created By Julia K, Year 9J2. The runners up were Jorge LN (Y9), Nelly J (Y8) and Evelyn-Daisy H (Y9).

Juila's design has been transformed into the Academy's official eCard (see front cover) and sent to the Academy's Governors, the Skinners' Company, local schools, and all staff.

Ms Memish, Head of Art



First Place: Julia K, Year 9J2



Second Place: Jorge LN, Year 9



Second Place: Jorge LN, Year 9



Third Place: Evelyn-Daisy H, Year 9



Fourth Place: Nelly J, Year 8

### Physical Education (PE)

#### Year 10 Football

Year 10 have had a steady start to their season this year, despite missing key player Ngoy N. In the London Cup, Skinners' played Acland Burghley School. In a really even game, momentum kept swinging back and forth; Skinners' were 2-1 ahead, then 3-2 down with our opponents scoring a free kick and a goal from outside the box. After pulling it back to 3-3 with a goal from Kymani SD, Acland Burghley then scored a late winner to win 4-3.

In the Inner London Cup round 2, Skinners' played away at Ark Putney Academy on a cut up and difficult pitch. The first half was very even and finished 0-0. Skinners' however blew their opponents away with an outstanding all round second half performance, winning 7-0 with goals from Kymani SD, Nathan B, Keanu C and Matheus S. Bring on round 3!

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE/HOY7



03 JAN	Staff PLD Day Academy Closed to Pupils	04 JAN	<b>Term Starts</b> All year groups
11 JAN	Year 11 Parents' Evening	18 JAN	Year 13 Parents' Evening
25 JAN	Year 7 Parents' Evening	30 JAN	Year 11 Information Evening
31 JAN	Year 12 & Year 13 Information Evening	01 FEB	Year 10 Information Evening
02 FEB	Year 9 Information Evening	06 FEB	Year 8 Information Evening
07 FEB	Year 7 Information Evening	13 FEB to 17 FEB	Half-Term
27 FEB to 03 MAR	Year 11 & Year 13 Exam Week	15 MAR	Year 10 Parents' Evening
21 MAR	Year 9 Options Evening	31 MAR	<b>Term Ends</b> Pupils dismissed at 1.00pm

### Keep up to date with news from the Academy here!

Our website: www.skinnersacademy.org.uk

Instagram & Twitter: @skinnersacademy

EduLink One: Download the EduLink One (Overnetdata) app

Parents have been sent a username and password via email. Please note to access the Site Code (App only) use: skac