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July 2022
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Summer Term
Issue 33
.....

academy newsletter



When I reflect on this year, I am reminded of all the things that make school such a special place and in particular Skinner's Academy such a special place. If ever there was a year, in most recent times, that felt 'normal', it is this year.

We started the year with the Prize Giving ceremony and it was wonderful to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of so many as well as being able to honour and acknowledge Ms Melanie Jackson, who sadly passed away last summer, with our inaugural Melanie Jackson Prize for Service to the Academy.

During the course of year, we saw more sporting fixtures taking place, a return of after school clubs and classes, Duke of Edinburgh expeditions and even a trip to Guadeloupe!

More recently, I have had the pleasure of watching our first Academy Production since the pandemic; Footloose – an amazing time was had by all. The talent and hard work of the pupils and staff involved was evident. Who needs a night at the

theatre in London with our own amazing, talented stars right here in the Academy? Well done to the cast, crew, technicians and staff involved.

From there, the success just continued to flow – in June our Year 7 girls basketball team represented Hackney in the Junior NBA League and came third overall! Then this month Skinner's Academy competed at Restore the Music's Battle of the Bands against 11 other schools from across London. They performed an original composition, and Samia in Year 11, and Regina in Year 8, won the 'Best Individual Performance' title for their incredible vocal work.

I am particularly proud of our achievements this year, and not least of all our 'Good' judgement from the Ofsted inspection.

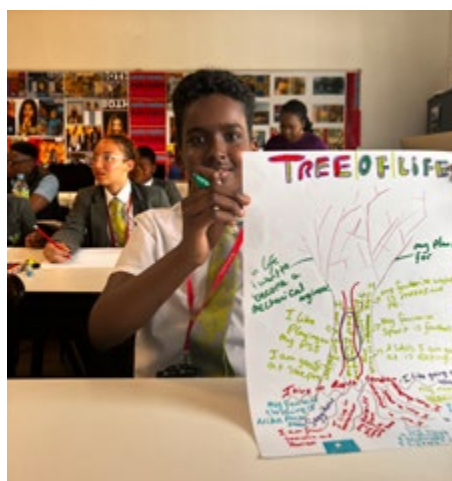
My final thoughts are focused on our Year 11 and Year 13 students who have demonstrated such resilience and commitment to their studies and exams during the most difficult and disruptive of times. They are all a real credit to their parents and carers and I look

forward to celebrating their results with them in August.

With very best wishes for a restful summer.

Shereka James
Principal, Skinner's Academy





Tree of Life

This term the Tree of Life programme has been delivered to 30 Year 7 and Year 8 pupils every Wednesday during PD time. This is a cultural identity, skill building programme designed for young people of African, Caribbean or mixed descent.

Pupils have created a personal tree of life that shows their cultural heritage, who they are and what their life is like now, and finally their dreams and plans for their future and who they hope to become.

Ms Laurent, Teacher in Charge of Media Studies | Ms Benjamin, Teacher of Health and Social Care

Visit from the Ethiopian Minister for Education

On May 24, Skinners' Academy welcomed a visit from the Ethiopian Minister for Education, Prof. Berhanu Nega, organised by the Education Development Trust. The visit included a tour of the Academy, discussion about teacher development with members of Skinners' Academy's Senior Leadership team and a Q&A session about the best practices for developing teacher pedagogy.

Prof. Nega was incredibly interested in our Early Career Framework and how it was being applied with our new cohort of teachers. This led on to a fruitful discussion about the benefits of evidence-led teaching practices and the benefits and drawbacks of professional development qualifications.

The visit was documented by a small number of our Sixth Form students who were able to answer questions about their school experience, greatly impressing the minister by being both articulate and enthusiastic about their education.

Ms Bell, Assistant Principal / Teacher of History



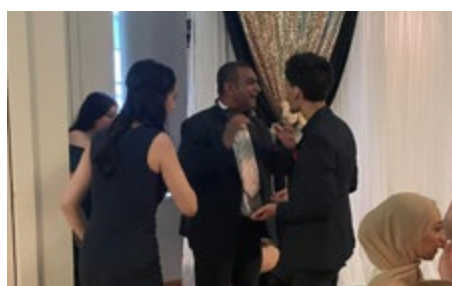
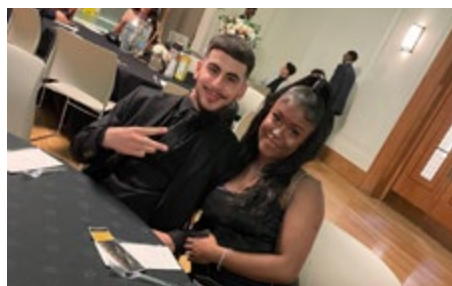
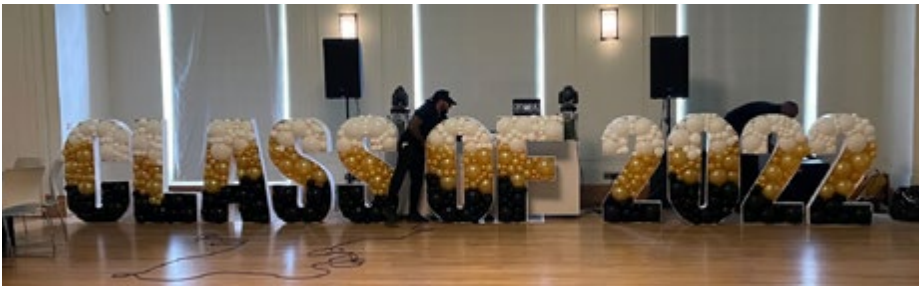
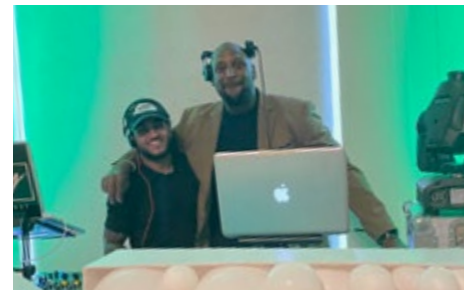
Goodbye Year 11

Message to Year 11

We would like to wish this year's Year 11 cohort the best of luck and hope that your hard work will pay off in August and that you all achieve your desired outcomes.

As an Academy we hope we have prepared you for the future what ever pathway you may choose.

We look forward to welcoming many of you back into our Sixth Form in September as hard working and dedicated Year 12 students.



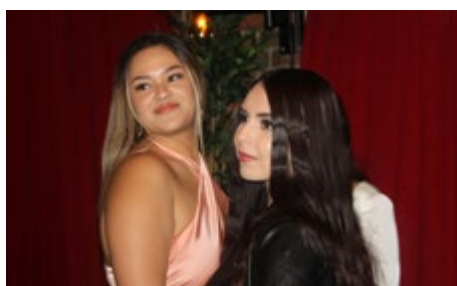
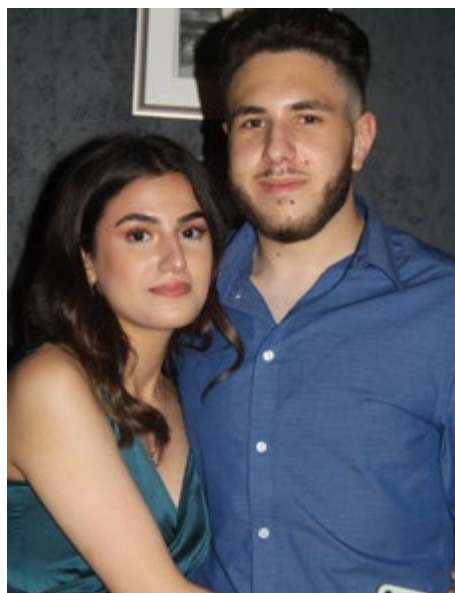
Farewell Year 13

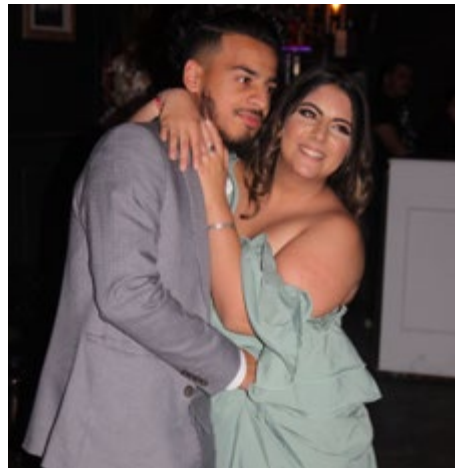


Message to Year 13

We bid a fond farewell to our Year 13 class of 2022 some of which have been at Skinners' Academy for 7 years since they joined us in Year 7.

Year 13, we wish you the very best of luck for results day and hope you all make a smooth transition into your adult lives whether you choose to complete a university degree, apprenticeship, travel the world or move straight into the world of work.





Sixth Form

Trip to the Old Bailey

Year 13 BTEC Business students visited the Old Bailey in May to see criminal trials taking place in person.

The trip helped students better understand legal processes in relation to one of their unit of study on criminal law.

Students sat in the public galleries of court rooms and observed real trials related to serious crimes including murder and fraud.

Ms Potter, Assistant Principal / Head of Sixth Form / Teacher of Business



““

I found it so interesting to see how courts worked in real life. I better understood the role of the jury after seeing the courts in action.

Rozer U, Year 13

Are you in Year 11? Do you want to stay on as a student in Skinners' Academy's Sixth Form?

CLICK HERE to email Ms Potter or speak to a member of staff on GCSE results day (25 August) if you didn't apply or attend your interview and would like to stay on in Sixth Form.

Year 13
Results 2021
A-Level: 79% A*-B
Vocational:
67% Distinction
(or higher)

Combined
A-Level &
Vocational
pathways
offering a varied
approach to
learning

New
from Sep 2022:
Retake Maths
and/or English
GCSEs alongside
level 3 BTEC
qualifications

Numerous
Enrichment
opportunities
e.g. DofE Gold

Daily
Pastoral
sessions
dedicated to
ensuring
students feel
supported

Quotes from our 2022 Ofsted Report

'Students in the sixth form are particularly proud of their school. They are focused and work with maturity both in lessons and in independent study.'

'Teachers have secure subject knowledge. In the sixth form, students are especially well supported by subject specialists.'

'In the sixth form, students benefit from dedicated one-to-one advice about universities and apprenticeships.'

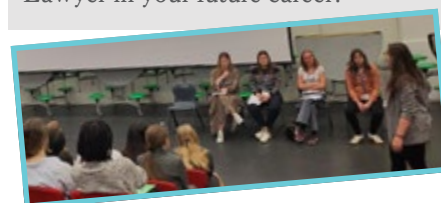
Careers

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the Skinners' Academy **Careers Portal**



Women in Law Panel

On 6 July, selected pupils from Year 7-10 joined Year 12 students in the Academy's theatre to learn from a panel of Women in Law. This was a really exciting opportunity for young females from all ages at Skinners' to participate in a female empowered discussion. They all had the chance to spend some time with Lawyers from Osborne Clarke, gaining insight into their career and developing an understanding of the industry. The session was very interactive and engaging, and a great opportunity to see the type of work you could do as a Lawyer in your future career.



London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

On 28 & 29 June, six Year 12 students visited a laboratory at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). LSHTM is renowned for its research, postgraduate studies and continuing education in public and global health.

During the two days at LSHTM, students got to visit their labs, teaching spaces, meet a range of young researchers (PHD students) and hear about their work. Students also got to spend time in the lab doing experiments, giving them a taste of molecular, cellular and whole-organism biological research.

Ms Jackson, Careers Lead with Responsibility for Post 16 Study Area



Medical Activity Drop Down Day

On 13 July, Year 10 Health & Social Care pupils took part in a drop-down day designed to give them a greater understanding of the range of careers in healthcare and the skills required.

Pupils practiced clinical skills (e.g. CPR and blood taking), took part in a GCSE biology revision session, and met King's medical students. Pupils were introduced to all the qualifications/routes they can take to become health care professionals and gained insight into what a career in the Medical/Healthcare field entails.

Work Experience Insight Day

Pension Bee are an online pension company, who have made amazing advances in the industry over the last couple of years, launching on the LSE last year, and only last month raised to the Premium Segment of the Main Market.

On 12 July, selected Year 12 students visited Pension Bee's office in Blackfriars. Students were introduced to the business and financial services sector including a tour of the office. They were able to have meaningful encounters with employees of the company within the workplace. The main areas the students had insight of included Social Media, Marketing and Communications, and Press Communications.

Students took on a mini project which they later presented to their peers and company employees. Congratulations to Zafar S & Nicole C who were the winning team of the mini project. They both received a £15 Gift Card each from a retailer of choice and an opportunity to attend a Public Speaking Coaching session.

Ms Jackson, Careers Lead with Responsibility for Post 16 Study Area



Academy Production

Footloose 2022

It was a very long wait but in May we finally welcomed back the Skinners' Academy Production!

For three nights from 23-25 May, our all singing all dancing cast and crew of talented Year 7 - Year 10 pupils delivered three stunning performances of the famous 'Footloose'.

Footloose is set in 1980's America. It follows the story of Ren (Stephen, Year 9) and his mother (Cansu, Year 10) who move from Chicago to a small farming town. He is prepared for the inevitable adjustment period at his new high school, but he's not prepared for the rigorous local edicts, including a ban on dancing instituted by the local Reverend (Oskar, Year 8), who is determined to exercise control over the town's youth. When the reverend's rebellious daughter (Maya, Year 10) sets her sights on Ren, her nasty boyfriend Chuck (also Cansu, Year 10), tries to sabotage Ren's reputation, with many of the locals eager to believe the worst about the new kid.

Footloose celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people while guiding them with a warm heart and open mind.



“ ”
It has been lovely getting to know pupils from other year groups during rehearsal and being able to come together as one big production family to deliver a great show.
Jasmine J, Year 9 (Vi)



“ ”
My favourite part was the cowboy scene at the beginning of Act 2. It had a lot of energy with everyone showing off their dance moves and the audience clapping along.
Gloria S, Year 10 (Coach Dunbar)





“”

Year 7 & Year 8 pupils should definitely take part in the next Academy Production, it really helps you to open up and be less shy. You also make a lot of new friends.

Angelina P, Year 7 (Urleen)



“”

I really loved seeing the audience interact with us whilst we were performing. They laughed, danced and even sung along with us which boosted our confidence and truly brought the show to life.

Ichita N, Year 8 (Wes)

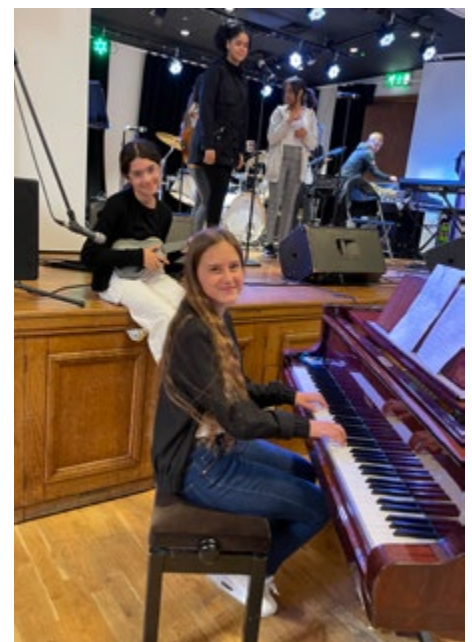


“”

Meeting with this great cast and crew on a regular basis to rehearse will definitely be something I miss. I hope to work with you all again next year!

Stephen A, Year 9 (Ren)

Music



These Kids Can't Stop Winning Things!

On 7 July, Skinners' Academy competed at Restore the Music's 'Battle of the Bands' against bands from 11 other schools across London. Our band performed an original composition 'Unfaithful' written by Samia A, Year 11.

[Click here](#) to watch their performance.

Whilst the group did not receive the coveted title of 'Best in Show', Samia and her co-singer Regina, Year 8, were awarded the 'Best Individual Performance' title for their incredible vocal work!

All pupils involved in our band were outstanding and represented the Academy with great poise and confidence. They put so much hard work into rehearsals, even coming in on our recent Inset Day to have a final run-through!

Well done to the following:

Samia A, Year 11 - Lead Vocals

Regina I, Year 8 - Vocals

Jasmine J, Year 9 - Acoustic Guitar

Amelia R, Year 7 - Piano

Isabella A, Year 7 - Ukulele

Tianna M, Year 7 - Drums

Lana D, Year 7 - Bass

Daniel W, Year 7 - 'Roadie' (life-saver of the day, honestly!)

Mr Chappell, Teacher of Music

Media Studies

CONTENTS

Regulars

- 3 **Top 20 Most Played Songs Of The Year**
The year is 2021, what are the bangers that have consistently in your head?
- 07 **Playlist Check**
This is the place to go if you need to explore your playlist. We go through each genre and recommend the best of the best.
- 18 **London - The Most Multicultural City**
From different skin tones and different accents to different dance styles, although London is no different, everyone still becomes one with music.
- 21 **Q.O.T.W**
Here are the questions of the week that are good to have a think about.
- 25 **Game Time**
Have a game or two with your friends? We've got you covered with our guide to the best games to play in the summer.

Featured

- 31 **Music Culture Around The World**
We've been to look into the most prominent genres of each culture around the world.
- 44 **Where Is Music Enjoyed The Most**
Discover music in every form. People enjoy it while gaming, working out, etc. Here's what a few students had to say about their habits.
- 47 **Artists From The Streets**
These artists have a reputation for being in the street scene that you may not have known about.
- 55 **The Youth Discuss**
In this section, it's all about what the youth have to say about their culture differences and how important music is to them, bringing people together.
- 58 **The Key To All Doors**
There are a lot of the most influential artists in the UK music scene. He has allowed us to look at the world of music, the music scene, and the world.

RELAD

£3

The Youth Discuss
Letting The Youth Speak
Music From My Homeland
Cultural music is so much the soul

WOMEN

CONTENTS

- 1 **FREIDA KHALO**
Freida Khalo was considered one of Mexico's greatest artists. Her art style explores questions of identity, gender, class and race.
- 4 **MARI KATAYAMA**
Mari Katayama is a Japanese multimedia artist known for her sculpture and photography work. Her work focuses on themes such as body image and identity.
- 6 **CINDY SHERMAN**
Cindy Sherman is an American photographer and filmmaker whose self portraits offer critiques of gender and identity.
- 11
- 17 **JUDY CHICAGO**
Judy Chicago's teachings were on the content and social significance of the art, especially in feminism.
- 19
- 23

WOMEN

£2.50

www.WOMEN.com
Freida Khalo Exhibition

THE MALE GAZE, THE FLAMING JUNE, FREIDA KHALO, MARI KATAYAMA, JUDY CHICAGO, CINDY SHERMAN

Issues that Face Young People

Congratulations to Year 13 A Level Media Studies students who have completed their coursework based on the theme of 'Issues that Face Young People'. See examples of work above from Year 13 students Bruno C & Delal P.

Ms Laurent, Teacher in Charge of Media Studies

Media Studies Podcast - Cast



Despite technical difficulties across this academic year 'Cast' is now in production, we have two production teams of Year 10 & Year 12 pupils. To mark the launch Cast has a beautiful new logo designed by Tristan F, Year 10.

Follow @SkinnersAcademy on Instagram and Twitter for updates on how to access the streams very soon.

Click here to follow us on Instagram



Science



“”

It was interesting to learn about the medicine making process, there is a lot of trial and error. Racing to see who could place the most 'medicine' samples the old-fashioned way makes you realise how difficult it is to place samples manually; that's why Labs use robots.

Ngozi O, Year 10

“”

My favourite part was using the VR goggles and racing to fill the plates with a pipette. One thing I learnt was that you can use AI to figure out if a medicine would work.

John-Matthew F, Year 10

“”

Such a interesting and insightful learning experience which I am glad I got to be a part of! This is an eye-opening career path that would certainly be of interest to me now I have been shown what it's like to contribute to the world of medicine and scientific research.

Holly L, Year 9

LifeArc Visit

In July, LifeArc came to Skinners' Academy to show some of our Year 9 and 10 pupils what life is like working in a drug discovery lab. Pupils had the opportunity to use VR headsets to visualise a Covid protein and to see the potential ways drugs can be used to treat the disease. They were also able to use microscopes to look at a variety of different cells and have a go at using a range of pipettes (from manual, to electric, to automated) to see how many plates they could fill in a minute!

The workshop gave pupils the chance to learn more about careers in the science industry and the type of technology scientists use to help them in their research.

Ms Siab, Teacher of Biology

Royal Society's Summer Science Fair

Year 12 A-level scientists visited the Royal Society's annual Summer Science Fair in July to see some of the cutting-edge science and technology in the UK. Our students met the scientists and discovered the exciting research and technology they work on and had fun taking part in exciting interactive activities.

Students from biology, chemistry, physics, and maths then attended a careers workshop where they heard talks and asked questions to biomedical engineers, computer scientists, evolutionary biologists, and psychologists. Year 12 then had an opportunity to explore the exhibition at the Royal Society, which is one of the oldest national academies of science in the world.

Well done Year 12 Scientists!

Mr McCrory, Teacher of Science





English



First Story Book Launch

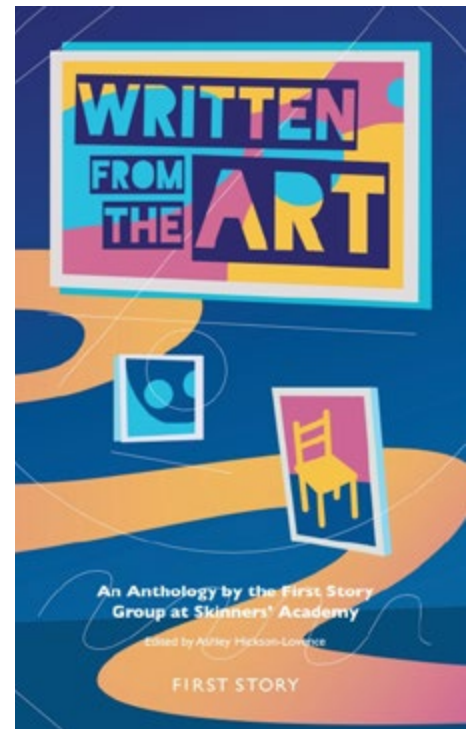
On 14 July, we held our First Story Book Launch. First Story is a creative writing charity which provides a year-long enrichment provision for a core group of pupils in the form of weekly, extra-curricular workshops, as well as opportunities for the whole school to take part in a variety of events and competitions.

Every Monday from October to March, our core group of Year 10 and Year 12 pupils worked with our writer-in-residence, Ashley Hickson-Lovence (author of *The 392* and *Your Show*), to produce a collection which speaks to their experiences as young people growing up in and around Hackney. The anthology, *Written from the Art*, has been officially published and there will even be a copy available in the British Library!

The book launch involved some readings of our pupils' work, refreshments, and a chance to hear from Ashley Hickson-Lovence. It was a real celebration of their achievements over the course of the year.

As you can imagine, the pupils involved have worked incredibly hard and we are exceptionally proud of all who took part. They are a hugely talented group and their anthology is worthy of a place on any bookshelf.

Ms Hardy, Head of English



Hello is a Rectangle by Mercedes Xavier

Hello is an opening,
 a door to a new adventure,
 a new start.
 It's the morning dew on the crisp leaves,
 the smile on your parents' faces,
 the sound of that irritating alarm.
 Hello is a new beginning to a new end:
 one more disappointment to greet,
 one more heart-racing, grip-slipping love.
 Hello is an ending,
 a slow broken heart in the making,
 with an unexpected 'don't leave me'.
 Hello is an opening,
 a door to a new adventure,
 a new start... starting again.

They Didn't See Me Fit (Poem) by Daniella Koranteng

They didn't see me fit
 Because I live across the Farm
 Where drillers live and stay armed
 Because I take the 259 to a school amongst the blocks
 ...
 Words and thoughts face imprisonment
 They're criminals
 That's why I never thought I would do poetry
 But there is no other way to stop the words becoming fugitives
 So I write
 And they finally
 Stand still.



Success with Bedrock!

This academic year we have been celebrating our pupils' success with Bedrock Vocabulary! The programme focuses on exposing our pupils to a wide range of powerful vocabulary, and it is something they engage with during PD, library lessons, and for homework.

Without the support of parents/carers this would not have been possible, so we thank you very much for making this a success. A real achievement for all our pupils. Without your persistence and push, the job would have been almost impossible. We thank you once again.

Pupils have shown maturity, passion, and excitement with their learning. Over 95% of KS3 pupils have regularly used the platform either at home and/or at school and there have been some real success stories across both KS3 and KS4.

Congratulations to the pupils listed for the endless effort on Bedrock throughout the year. Your name will be put into a raffle pot and two names will be selected randomly for a prize!

Ms Adu-Agyei, Teacher of English

Monthly Report	Pupil Names
Sep	Vanessa M, Year 9
Oct	Jonathan A G, Year 7
Nov	Ethan M, Year 8 Yusra A, Year 9
Dec	Ahmed R, Year 7 Regina I, Year 8
Jan	Semira S, Year 9
Feb	Ilyaas A, Year 8 Abdul-Mutallib S, Year 9
Mar	Ilyaas A, Year 8 Hanad A, Year 7
Apr	Ashley K, Year 9 Valerie O, Year 7
May	Ashley K, Year 9 Calum G, Year 9
Jun	Joao Gabriel D, Year 8 Muideen O, Year 9
Jul	Muideen O, Year 9 Omar H, Year 9

Art & Design



Architecture Collage

This term, Year 9 have been exploring the theme of 'Architecture' through the use of collage. Pupils have built on their previous collage skills by developing them further through the use of the drawing with scissors technique, the cut to shape technique and the Notan technique. Pupils took inspiration from the Architect Freddie Mamani and the Artist Henri Matisse. Pupils combined these inspirations to produce their final Notan outcomes.

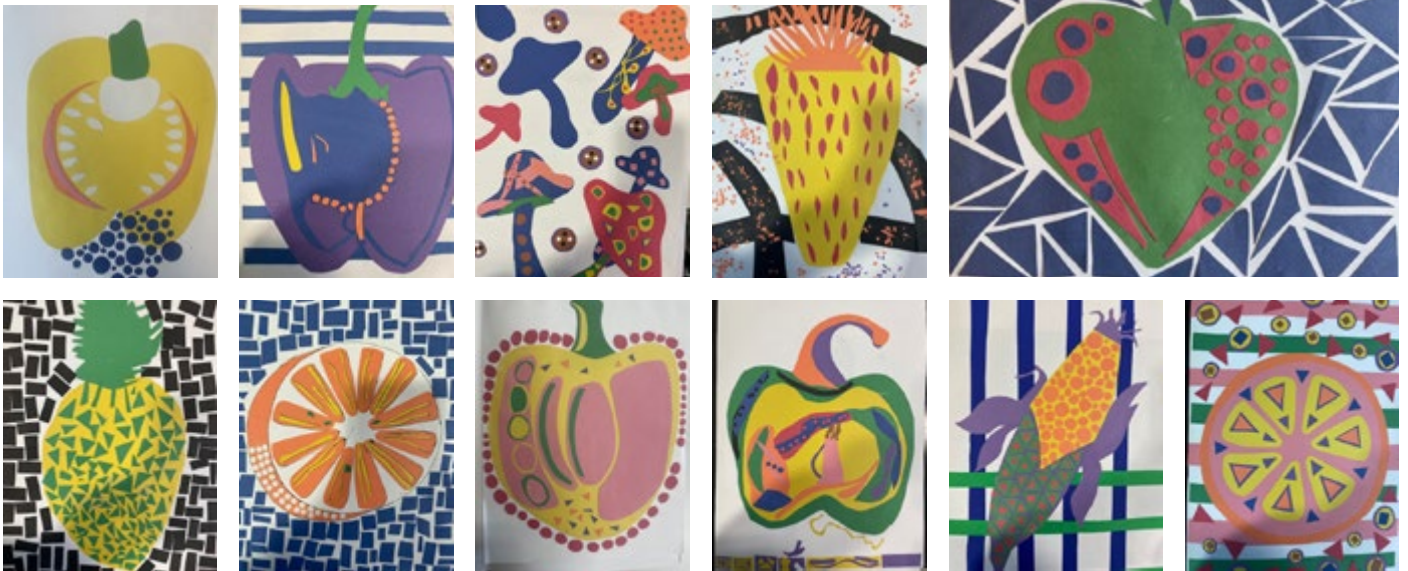
Ms Memish, Head of Art & Design



Fruits & Veg Collage

This term, Year 8 have been exploring the theme of 'Fruits and Vegetables' through the use of collage. Pupils have built on their previous collage skills by developing them further through the use of the drawing with scissors technique, taking inspiration from Henri Matisse who used this technique to create his own collage works. Pupils also took inspiration from the artist Yayoi Kusama, adding a variety of geometric shapes and patterns to their work as Kusama did.

Ms Memish, Head of Art & Design



Mixed Media

This term, Year 7 have been exploring the theme of 'Natural Form' through the use of mixed media. The pieces pictured have all been produced using a combination of media including colouring pencil, felt tip pen, and tissue paper. Some of the techniques used have been mark making, collage and tonal application.

Ms Memish, Head of Art & Design



Design Technology (DT)

Year 10 Textiles

Year 10 pupils have been working hard this year on their portfolios of work. They have learnt and developed using a range of different textiles techniques such as Batik, Machine Embroidery and Fabric printing.

Each pupil has selected their individual theme and is working independently to create a garment based on their theme.



“““

I find textiles really fun and creative. We have created loads of pieces of work within our themes.

Chiamaka O, Year 10



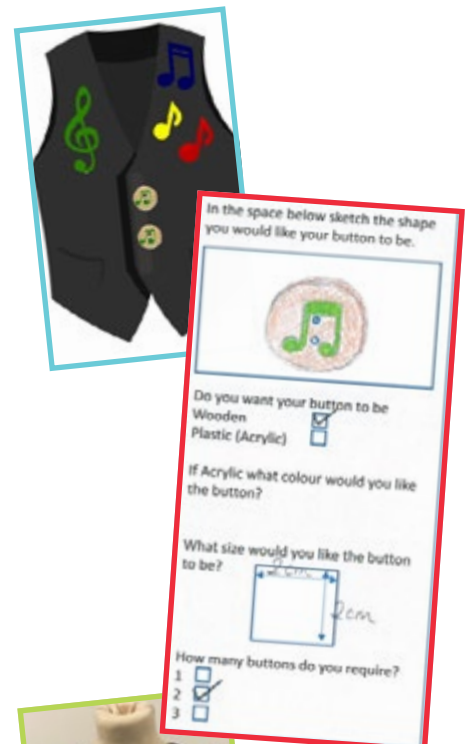
Year 9 Waistcoats

This term a new group of Year 9 pupils have been learning about the technique Applique. Applique is needlework in which small pieces of fabric are sewn or stuck on to a larger piece of fabric to form a picture or pattern.

Once pupils mastered how to do Applique using both hand and machine embroidery, they then began designing their waistcoats making sure to incorporate their learnt skills.

Pupils have also learnt how to add shape to a garment using darts, how to use an Overlocker machine and how to create buttons on the laser cutter.

Ms Greco-Addo, Head of Design & Technology



“““

This term in Textiles I designed and made a waistcoat.

I chose the design theme Music as it is a passion of mine. The skills I learnt were hand embroidery and Applique.

The hardest part of making my waistcoat was neatening the seams on the edge of the waistcoat as the silk was very slippery.

The best part was sewing the designs onto the finished waistcoat.

Chen Leng W, Year 9

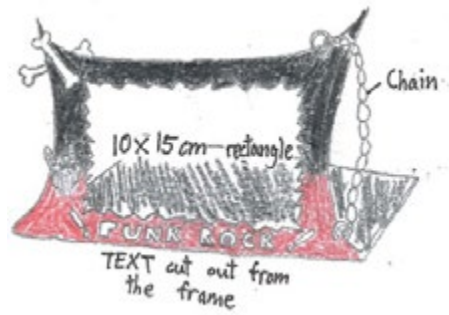




Year 7 Pewter Casting

Year 7 have been learning about the different groups of metals and how alloys such as pewter can be manipulated to produce jewellery. They have designed and used various workshop tools to create their own mould in order to pewter cast.

Pupils have worked really well and have produced a variety of lovely designs that they will continue to develop into finished products.



Year 8 Photo Frames

Year 8 pupils have used CAD software to transfer their final design ideas onto the computer so they could begin creating their physical photo frames. First, individual pieces were 'printed' on a sheet of Acrylic using the Laser Cutter, then pupils used the strip heater to form a bend in their printed pieces to allow the frame to stand. Well done to all pupils who worked hard to produce great final products!

Ms Betiku, Teacher of Design and Technology



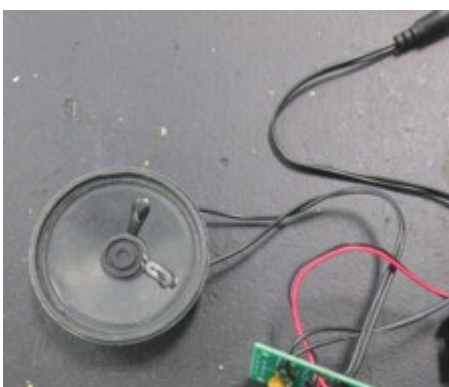
Year 9 Electronics Speakers

Year 9 pupils have been designing and making their very own portable speakers. The theme is set as the Memphis Movement which is well known for its late 80s style that embodies quirky geometric shapes with bold colours and retro furniture.

Each pupil has shown great dedication, skill and focus in understanding the components of an electronics system. They have worked hard to assemble and solder their individual electronic circuits to produce a working speaker.

At the time of writing, pupils are at the final stage of constructing and finishing the housing of their speakers.

Ms Betiku, Teacher of Design and Technology



Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Guadeloupe Visit (April 2022)

14 Year 8 pupils embarked on a Caribbean visit to Guadeloupe, a French island, to practice their French speaking skills and experience the French Caribbean culture. It was an amazing experience for our pupils, and the itinerary was filled with educational, cultural, environmental, and fun activities and most importantly they learnt lots of French.

With our link school, pupils had exceptional cultural and educational opportunities. They were given the opportunity to fully immerse in the local Guadeloupean secondary school. Their fellow pupils welcomed them into their facilities and even though some of them did speak English, many Skinners' pupils grasped the opportunity to practice their French conversational skills with them.

In addition to this school experience, each day pupils had the opportunity to see various attractions from the island and enjoy the ecosystem and hotel facilities.

Overall, this trip was incredible, culturally and linguistically for all pupils and teachers involved.

Ms Delo, Teacher of MFL



Day 1

We arrived in Guadeloupe on Monday evening. It was warm to say the least. Pupils enjoyed a beautiful sunset at the hotel whilst they were getting to know their surroundings and rooms. Pupils were nervous to be in a very different atmosphere and culture, but they were very excited to begin their journey.

In addition to this school experience, each day pupils had the opportunity to see various attractions from the island and enjoy the ecosystem and hotel facilities.

Day 2

We went to our school link in the morning, where we were welcomed by the Principal, some English and French teachers, and a group of pupils. We visited the school and its facilities, Skinners' pupils introduced themselves in French and local pupils did the same in French and English. Pupils discovered a totally different way to experience school, the freedom pupils were given and what similarities they shared with their peers. Pupils also had an introduction to Creole, the local language and a short history course of the island.

In the afternoon we went to one of the biggest Caribbean Museums 'Memorial Acte'. It is the Caribbean centre for the expression of the memory of the slave trade. We had a wonderful guide, who explained to fascinated pupils the painful history of the island whilst exploring the exhibition from Antiquity to today.

““

The Guadeloupe trip was sooo good!! It was my first trip abroad so it was fun to be there with all my friends. The hotel had good service and we did lots of activities throughout the day.

Dajan C, Year 8



Day 3

One of our trip highlights! As part of our programme, we undertook a unique activity with our NGO link to understand the work the island is doing to support the UN's Sustainable Development goal 15 (Life on Land) and 16 (Peace, justice, and strong institutions). Our guide Fiona, the owner/creator of the charity 'Rézilyans 971' took us on a nature walk to discover the wildlife of the mangrove/swamp. We identified medicinal trees, plants and flowers, and wild animals such as frogs, birds, fishes, termites and more. Pupils paid close attention to details on how we can live in harmony with nature and build an ecosystem with less human impact and pollution which will benefit us and the land (island). Some courageous pupils even tried and tasted medicinal plants and live termites which had healing properties.

We ended our nature walk at one of the most beautiful beaches of the island so pupils could have a well-deserved swim and see some curious crabs and fish.



“ ”

My favourite part of going to Guadeloupe was going to KFC. But there was a twist to that, we had to order in French! Saying: Je voudrais (which means I would like) and our order and then merci (which means thank you). Another thing was the weather, even though it was very hot. It was nice but overall, the trip was amazing!

Tykwane H, Year 8

Day 4

In the early morning, we went to see the second part of the island and pupils discovered how different it was from the other part we were staying in. This mountainous side of the island was more verdurous, as it is where the volcano is located. Pupils admired one of the many waterfalls the island has to offer and took many pictures. We set sail on a glass bottom boat to observe the 'Cousteau Reserve' a protected underwater reserve with vibrant coral reefs and marine life. Pupils and staff enjoyed jumping from the boat and swimming in the ocean's deep waters. They found the experience most exhilarating and unforgettable.

In the afternoon, we went to a local restaurant to taste some local Caribbean cuisine which the pupils enjoyed immensely, the fusion flavours were delicious according to the pupils. Our last activity of the day was a visit to the "Deshaies botanical garden", a magnificent kept garden housing tropical flowers and plants from the island, waterscapes, a parrot aviary, pink flamingos, goats and more. It was also the opportunity to have a delicious ice cream with plenty of local flavours to choose from.



Day 5

We went back to our school link, but this time pupils had the opportunity to fully immerse themselves into the school life of local pupils. Our pupils attended lessons across a range of subjects and levels. Our pupils were each paired with a local pupil so they could experience first-hand how lessons were conducted by local teachers, some even participated in lessons. Some found it difficult to understand everything but managed to grasp some vocabulary. Others really enjoyed their chosen subject and could exchange with teachers and local pupils during the lesson in the target language. The school introduced our pupils to a local delicacy called "bokit" which is a type of fried bread garnish with cheese, tuna, chicken or ham. Pupils really enjoyed learning to make it and asked for the recipe to try it back home in London.



“ ”

Going to Guadeloupe was an exquisite experience, allowing us to fully explore the French language, as well as the beauties of the island. My favourite parts were visiting the beaches, and spending time with friends in the hotel. I also loved the boat trip, being able to explore marine life within the ocean and jumping from the boat into waters. It was an unforgettable trip.

Berfin I, Year 8



Day 6 & 7

It was supposed to be our last activity, where we would have taken a boat to another island of the Guadeloupe archipelago to visit a distillery, a market, a castle, a honey factory, eat in a restaurant and have a wonderful day trip. Unfortunately, the night before the island was hit by a tropical storm. Our hotel and the town we were in experienced interruptions of electricity, and some places were experiencing flooding. We had to change our plan. However, it was one of the brightest days we ever had. After this storm, the sky was blue, without a single cloud, the sun was shining, the sea was clear blue etc. We decided to stay in the hotel and to enjoy the facilities we had there. Pupils spent all day either swimming in the sea or in the pool, playing frisbee, ball games, board games, collecting shells, competing in a talent show etc...

We spent our final day packing, enjoying our last local meal made by the hotel's restaurant, swimming in the sea or the pool and getting ready to take our plane back to London.

Year 6 Visit a Spanish Year 8 Lesson

Two Year 8 Spanish classes participated in a joint lesson with 20 Year 6 pupils from Sir Thomas Abney Primary School. The pupils came to Skinners' to have a 'Secondary School learning experience' and pupils learnt about giving directions together. Using miming, written and oral language, pupils participated in a variety of enriching activities and learnt together.

Year 6 pupils were thrilled to learn with us, and our Year 8 pupils helped them to progress in the lesson. It was a beautiful experience which we would like to do again soon, gracias!

Ms Gurriarán Bas, Teacher of MFL





Physical Education (PE)



Athletics Tournament

Every year Skinners' Academy compete in the Hackney Athletics Tournament at Mile End Athletics Track. This year Skinners' were triumphant across many events including the boys under 14s 100-Metre event where Stephen A and Ngoy N battled it out against the fastest boys in the borough. An amazing performance by both boys ended with Stephen winning gold, closely followed by Ngoy who won silver.

The Year 9 girls were also successful in the 200-Metres thanks to Lola H's incredible effort that earned her a silver medal, Nubi C also won silver for Long Jump. Anneysha A and Kerida G dominated the Discus event earning silver and bronze for the Skinners' team!

The Year 10 team were successful in long-distance events. Gabriel C won gold in the 1200-Metre and Beni K won silver in the 800-Metres. Well done to all the pupils that participated and thank you to those that came to athletics clubs and attended trials after school.

Mr Smith, Teacher of PE

Jr.NBA League

This year three out of our four basketball teams made it to the semi-finals of the Jr.NBA league for the first time in Skinners' Academy history!

Year 7 boys finished in 2nd place in the Overall League. They made it to the semi-final of the Jr.NBA but unfortunately lost.

Year 8 girls finished in 3rd place in the Overall League. They also made it to the semi-final of the Jr.NBA but unfortunately lost.

Year 8 boys finished in 6th place in the Overall League which meant they couldn't proceed onto the Jr.NBA league.

All hopes lay on the Year 7 girls' team who finished 1st in the Overall League. Could they be our first team to medal at the Jr.NBA?! They made it to the semi-final of the Jr.NBA where they played Riverside, **THEY WON!** Becoming our first team to make it to a Jr.NBA FINAL where they would represent Hackney! The finals were held on 23 June, our Year 7 girls' team played extremely well and came 3rd! earning a bronze medal, the first ever medal won by Skinners' Academy in the Jr. NBA.

Congratulations to our Year 7 girls' team and well done to all our other teams. Special shout out to our team coaches Mr Williams & Ms Antwi who have given so much of their time to coach and support the teams.

We are excited to see what next year will bring.

Mr Williams, Teacher of PE





D of E Gold

On 11-15 July, Year 13 students undertook their assessed D of E Gold Award expedition in Brecon Beacons, Wales. The students did incredibly well, showing good navigation, fitness and resilience to trek for eight-hours a day across the Welsh mountains.

For most students this will be the final hurdle in their completion of the prestigious Gold Award. They started back in September 2021 and have spent 18 months completing their physical, skills, volunteering and residential sections. This was along with a practice expedition last year. Now the Gold expedition is complete, we are simply waiting to receive our invitation to Buckingham Palace to collect our certificates! Well done to all.

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE / HOY7

D of E Bronze

98 Year 10 pupils did an excellent job in completing their D of E Bronze Award expedition recently, to Epping Forest. They had to read maps and follow routes to hit checkpoints and navigate their way around the forest, whilst carrying their clothes, cookers and tents in backpacks. In the evening, pupils set up their tents at camp then cooked pre-planned meals in their groups.

Throughout the expedition pupils worked in small groups and developed important skills such as leadership, teamwork, resilience, and determination. All showed good navigation skills to complete the routes set, and enjoyed the cooking and camping in the evening!

The expedition is the final part of the Bronze Award after completing their physical section through doing rock climbing, their skills section through learning first aid, and their volunteering section in their own time. For those who haven't completed their volunteering section, there is still time to complete it over the summer holidays.

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE / HOY7





Sports Day

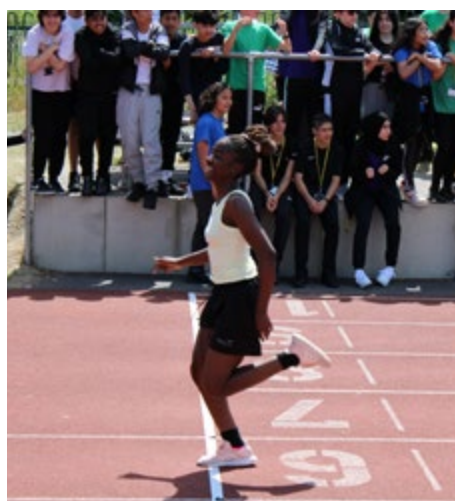
After a two-year break due to Covid-19, we welcomed the return of Sports Day on 15 July. Although the format had slightly changed (only track events, no field events) our pupils enjoyed an afternoon filled with fun healthy competition.

All our runners were competing for house points. House points earned on Sports Day are as follows:

- 4th - Judd, 800 points
- 3rd - Buchanan, 818 points
- 2nd - Atwell, 878 points
- 1st - HUNT, 1024 points

These points will be combined with house points earned throughout various events throughout this academic year. The house with the most overall points will win the House Cup at the end of year assembly.

The day was a success and we look forward to our next Sports Day in July 2023!



01 SEP	Staff PLD Day No pupils onsite	02 SEP	Induction Day Year 7 : 8.25am Year 12 : 8.45am
05 SEP	Term Starts Year 7, 8, 9 & 12 : 9.50am Year 10, 11 & 13 : 10.20am	12 SEP	Year 11 Information Evening 5.00pm - 6.00pm
13 SEP	Year 12 & 13 Information Evening 5.00pm - 6.00pm	14 SEP	Year 10 Information Evening 5.00pm - 6.00pm
15 SEP	Year 9 Information Evening 5.00pm - 6.00pm	19 SEP	Year 8 Information Evening 5.00pm - 6.00pm
20 SEP	Year 7 Information Evening 5.00pm - 6.00pm	21 SEP	Year 6 Open Evening (1) 4.30pm - 6.30pm
12 OCT	Year 6 Open Evening (2) 5.00pm - 7.00pm	13 OCT	Year 6 Open Morning (3) 9.00am - 9.45am
24 OCT to 02 NOV	Half-Term	17 NOV	Prize Giving
25 NOV	Occasional Day Pupils dismissed at 1.00pm	16 DEC	Term Ends Pupils dismissed at 1.00pm

You can find more information and keep up to date with news from the Academy all year round through our varying communication channels, including:

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