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July 2012  
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Spring Term  
Issue 04  
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# academy newsletter



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There is always so much happening at Skinner's Academy and the spring term has been no exception!

From experiencing a unique educational lecture/workshop from a world-renowned dance troupe from El Colegio del Cuerpo in Colombia (the only one delivered in the UK); to celebrating Charles Dickens' bicentennial, it has been a busy few months.

A highlight this term was earning accreditation from the National Standard for Enterprise Education, a benchmark for good practice in enterprise education. This was also a significant term for our Year 8s who took a big step – submitting preferences for their pathways for GCSEs from September!

In addition, as you will read, this term it was officially announced that Skinner's Academy students will be taking part in the under-16s Volunteer Performer Cast for the Olympic and Paralympic Ceremonies this summer. Specific students have not yet been selected but we wish all who auditioned the best of luck. Whether selected to be part of the performing cast not, we know our students resonate with our values, which match those of the Olympics and Paralympics and are proud to have been the only secondary school selected to represent Hackney.

Have an enjoyable Spring holiday!  
Best wishes,  
Jenny Wilkins  
Principal



*Jenny Wilkins*



Artwork above created by Detroit Peart, Year 8

## The Brokerage Citylink:

We are proud to confirm that a selection of Skinners' Academy students will take part in the under-16s Volunteer Performer Cast for the Olympic and Paralympic Ceremonies. The young performers are being chosen from schools in the six east London Host Boroughs, and we are proud to have been chosen as the secondary school to represent Hackney.

LOCOG Chair Seb Coe said: 'Being part of the Ceremonies is a great way of inspiring young people, I'm delighted schoolchildren from the Host Boroughs will be part of our show and help tell our story to the world. The students involved will have an incredible experience which will build their confidence and a sense of pride in themselves, their friends, family, school and wider community.'

In total, 1,650 children auditioned for the London 2012 Ceremonies Mass Movement Team, undertaking large scale choreography as well as dance routines. We are expecting to hear from LOCOG imminently about which of our students will be involved and will keep you informed with any developments.

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I really enjoyed working in teams to design a new £10 note. The trip helped me to develop my enterprise skills in problem solving, communication, problem solving, and leadership as well as develop my

## Cooking Accreditation

The Skinners' Academy Let's Get Cooking club has qualified for Let's Get Cooking accreditation - recognition that it has followed the guidelines for running a healthy cooking club. Between 14 February 2011 and 31 December 2011, our key achievements include:

- 84 club members have learnt new cooking skills
- 233 new cooking skills have been taught to club members
- 20 club sessions have been held
- 3 community cooking events have been held
- 15 parents, family members and people from the local community were involved

Congratulations to all staff and students who have been involved with this Big Lottery funded healthy eating initiative!





## Jisnjsn

In mid-January, Skinners' Academy students were well represented at a borough-wide event, which celebrates the young people of Hackney who are breaking barriers and achieving excellence.

The event took place at the Hackney Empire and categories included 'Turning your life around', 'Academic achievement', 'Achieving against all odds' and 'Music'. In addition to the award winners and their parents, the event was also attended by Year 11 pupils from across the borough to inspire them as they prepare for their GCSEs this spring.

Former footballer and commentator Garth Crooks and entertainer Kat B also made a special appearance to spur on the students.

The event is in its seventh year. Chief Executive of the Learning Trust Alan Wood said: "There are so many success stories in Hackney schools that we've struggled to squeeze them into just one night. That's a fantastic testament to the teachers, school staff and families that have really got behind our students and supported them to achieve."

Our Skinners' Academy Trailblazers for 2012 include the students below.

Congratulations!

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We are so proud of our students and those throughout Hackney for their fantastic achievements. Skinners' Academy students gained recognition for their work which included a world-class advertising campaign, a group enterprise initiative and phenomenal individual GCSE results – and we extend our congratulations to the students awarded at this year's Trailblazers ceremony and look forward to more exciting achievement within the next year.

Ms Jenny Wilkins

Category	Name of Students
Academic achievement	Paulina Gawrylewska, Samroz Umar
Achieving against all odds	Wassim Malik Choudhury, Jahmai Scott
Creative arts	Ewelina Sniegon , Kasia Sadowska
Music	Rebecca Greaney, Esin Akdogan
Outstanding achievement	Connacht Sheffield, Kelell Davison-Thomas
Outstanding team	Skinners' International
Creative arts	Baljeet Kaur, Ebony Brown



## Alternative Education

I was approached with a very unusual opportunity – an amazing world renowned dance group from Colombia were here in the UK and they had 2 empty days in their itinerary and they wanted very much to use the time to share their work with young people. I approached Skinners' Academy, who Kaizen have worked with extensively, because I knew that they have a very strong can-do attitude and an unwavering commitment to bringing unusual learning opportunities to their students.

The reply from Skinners' was instant and very positive (this was in contrast to many other groups who were approached, who said they would love to ...but there wasn't time to organise it). As ever, arranging the logistics with Skinners' was very easy and the reception on the day for the Colombian group was very warm and welcoming, and the auditorium space was phenomenal.

The Colombian dancers were totally amazed by the Academy – they said they had never imagined a school could be like this – and said they really loved the opportunity to work with British young people.

Having performed at Sadlers Wells for three sell out performances, this was their only opportunity to have this type of interaction and they really valued it.

For myself, I am very appreciative of the partnership with Skinners that enabled us to put together such an event in very short time. My belief is that the workshop left a profound impression on all parties and I hope that when they come to London again in the future we will be able to do this again.

Thank you Skinners' for making this possible!

Jonny Zander, Director  
Kaizen Partnership



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It was quite amazing to be introduced to a new cultural dance you don't see on TV. I was very proud to come and see it. The lecture/workshop reminded me to appreciate what I have.

Le'Andra Logie-Clyne, Year 8



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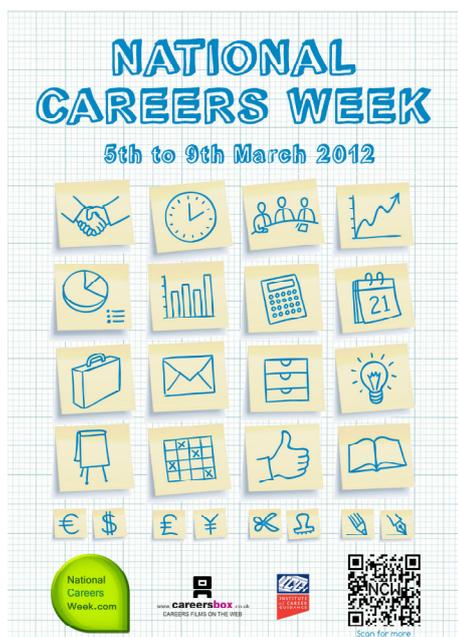
The school set up in Cartagena de Indias, really enlightened me- it showed that you could get a decent education from learning about the body through dance. It was radical, new and eccentric, this made me think of other solutions to learning. The way they learn keeps them fit and healthy while supplying them with knowledge. The dancing was incredible too, emotional and it inspired me...

Connacht Sheffield, Year 8

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Where should I start? It was a great experience learning about dancing from different parts of Colombia. Especially the part where they were talking about their school. I found that inspirational and also how all of their dance linked to a story. One word for it... amazing! I was honoured to be chosen to watch it.

Tabassum Nusibhya, Year 8



# National Careers Week '12

As part of our dedication to providing good quality careers resources for our students, Skinners' Academy participated in National Careers Week. This was a celebration of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance - with an exciting programme for students:

### Key Stage 3:

Our Year 8 students, at the stage of selecting their pathways for Key Stage 4, participated in their KS4 Pathways evening as well as:

- University workshops delivered by Middlesex University ambassadors which gave them the opportunity to find out more about university life from students. As well as conducting a "What career makes you tick?" quiz they received an early insight into Higher Education

- Workshops run by Ogilvy & Mather, one of the world's best known international advertising, marketing and public relations agencies, who gave them tasks to come up with campaign ideas for well known, global brands.

### Key Stage 5:

Our sixth formers had the opportunity to speak to experts in varying fields who came in to share their own career journeys and tell our students more about their industry. These professionals included:

- Alexis Akwagyiram, broadcast journalist from BBC News Online
- Ian Stapleton, Account Manager, Chartered Institute of Management Accountants
- Stacy Moore, Educational Psychologist, Inner Circles.

Our sincere thanks to those professionals who took the time to come and speak to our students.

Mrs Gina Visram



In the same week, the Key Stage 4 pathways evening was held for Year 8 students and their parents / carers to give them more information ahead of making GCSE subject choices.



# Business & Enterprise



## Enterprise Education Accreditation

In February, Skinners' Academy was accredited with the National Standard For Enterprise Education (NSEE). The NSEE is designed to provide a benchmark for good practice in enterprise education.

As an Academy, we were able to demonstrate an integrated approach to enterprise education which has had a significant impact within the curriculum across a range of subject areas and activities. Both staff and students are to be commended for their hard work and endeavour which has enabled us to achieve this prestigious award.

Mr Rex Lewis

## Spring Term Enterprise Day

At the end of January, Skinners' Academy Year 7 students took part in an 'Enterprise Day' - a morning of off-timeable activities designed to increase the students understanding and enjoyment of essential enterprise education and initiatives. The activities were focused around cultural Olympic activity and consisted of varying strands - Art, Music, PE and Drama and the business department was aided by the Year 13 BTEC students in organising the day.

Ms Hannah Potter

## Thomson Reuters: London Olympic Press Gang

Last term REP London invited applications from students on their programme from all over London to join the Thomson Reuters - London Olympics Press Gang. Out of hundreds of applicants we are proud to announce that Daniela Andrea Gomez Vera (BTEC National Business Student) has been successful.

The Reuters programme consists of a 12-week programme in London introducing a group of young people from the local community to journalism.

This is a fantastic opportunity Daniela to work with journalists from Thomson Reuters in Canary Wharf, the world's largest international multimedia news provider.

In December Daniela attended the 'Introduction to Journalism' session where she learnt about the importance of accuracy and speed, and went on to write her very first article as a member of the Press Gang. She now has on-going training in how to research and write stories and take photos, and learns about how newspapers, websites and TV news are put together. As part of the programme, Daniela is also reporting on the build-up to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the involvement of Skinners' Academy.

Ms Selda Kurtuldu



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Being part of the Thomson Reuters programme has given me the chance to see how journalists really work. I didn't realise how interesting journalism is, but after being close to it I found myself amazed by the way they are so organised to get the stories out there for the public.

Daniela Andrea Gomez Vera,  
6th Form



## Bring and Buy

Achievers International is an online enterprise project for students, encouraging them to understand international trading. A group of Year 8 students have formed a company 'Skinners' International', and they will be importing and exporting fair-trade goods with our partner schools in Spain and Luxemburg.

As part of the project the 'Skinners' International' group held a 'Bring and Buy' sale at Woodberry Down Community Primary School on Friday 3rd February in order to raise funds for their business. The event was a success and our entrepreneurs managed to raise just under £200.

On behalf of Skinners' Academy and Skinners' International we would like to thank Woodberry Down Primary School for their on-going support with the project. We would also like to thank parents, students and staff for donating items for the event.

Ms Selda Kurtuldu

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**During the Bring & Buy Sale we sold many items donated to us by students, parents and Skinners' Academy staff. The event was a great success and taught us how important selling techniques and communication skills are.**

Rebecca Greaney,  
Year 8... and HR Director of student business Skinners' International

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**As a member of “Team London Ambassadors,” I am really excited about the upcoming Olympics. Being part of this event is a great opportunity for me to meet new people and build my confidence, as I am quite a shy person. But I do not see this even only as an opportunity to build my confidence, it is also a once in a lifetime chance to be part of something big.**

Agata Ciszewska , 6th Form

## Our London Ambassador!

We are proud to announce that Agata Ciszewska (BTEC National Business Year 13 student) has been selected to participate in the Mayor of London's scheme, the London Ambassadors programme. The programme is supported by dedicated volunteers from Accenture, Barclays, Deutsche Bank, Royal London Asset Management, UBS and the local community. This once in a life time volunteering opportunity will offer Agata the chance to represent London on the only information 'pod' predominantly manned by young people during the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Based in the heart of Spitalfields, Agata will volunteer for six consecutive days over the period of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. She will welcome visitors from all over the UK and the world to London and will be giving advice on what's happening in the local area, how to get to certain places in London and information about the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We would like to congratulate Agata in her success and look forward to seeing her in action in Spitalfields during the games.

Ms Selda Kurtuldu

# LRC/English

## What the Dickens?! Skinners' celebrates the bicentenary of Charles Dickens

Students went back in time on Charles Dickens day (Tuesday 7 February), in recognition of the celebration of the Dickens Bicentennial.

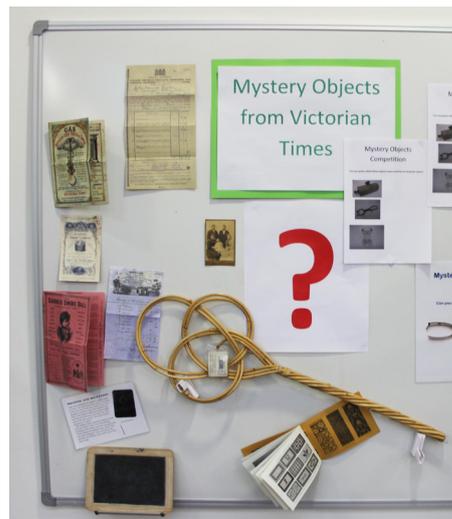
We arranged a variety of activities to celebrate the anniversary, from competitions and games, to creative writing and an excursion. This was a cross-curricular event with many departments, centrally organised by the Learning Resource Centre team and including Art, History and English, working together to run classes and activities in the run up to the day so that the students would get the most from the event.

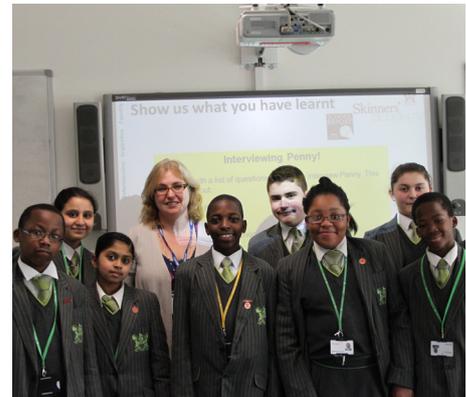
On the day itself, staff dressed in Victorian costumes hired from the National Theatre and teachers conducted their classes in a Victorian manner.

Interactivity was a key part of ensuring the students engaged with the events, and included a Dickens trivia quiz and two Dickens competitions. The first was a "Name the Victorian Artefact" competition, featuring artefacts supplied by the Islington Educational Library, and the second was an Art competition which asked students to produce a work inspired by Dickens, his life, times or writing. Elsie O'Rourke, a Year 8 student won the latter with her photograph of herself (pictured right) as Miss Havisham, the witchy central character in *Great Expectations*.

The English department ran classes about Dickens and the Humanities department took some students on an excursion to tour 'Victorian London', while others participated in a 'Who Killed Edwin Drood?' murder mystery game, ensuring that the students gained a cross curriculum experience of the celebrated novelist.

Ms Susannah Phillips





## BBC School News Report

BBC News School Report gives 11-16 year-old students in the UK the chance to make their own news reports for a real audience.

Skinners' Academy is proud to again have been involved with BBC School News Report in 2012... and this year, has one of the youngest school news teams in the country as all participants are in Year 7.

In conjunction with their teachers, the school reporters decided to report on the participation in the Olympics ceremonies, their experience of an exclusive lecture/workshop by a Colombian Dance Troupe, that day's news on literacy standards... and they answered the question "Which global superstar is considering buying a flat in Hackney?"

The video is available to view on the Academy website. Congratulations to all involved!

Ms Emma Merton

“ I really liked that we wrote our own scripts without the teachers because it helped us to gain confidence. It was also exciting to be on the BBC website. ”  
 Chandra Scott-Corbett, Year 7

“ I enjoyed the amazing lesson on how journalists make reports and stories. I learnt how journalists make news reports in such a short time and that it needs to be clear, concise and correct. ”  
 Nicole Fernandes, Year 7

“ What I really enjoyed about the BBC School Report was that we read lots of news stories and learnt so much from them. I also learnt that news reporters need to be very careful about writing stories and making sure that they have facts. I would really like to do it again. ”  
 Dhara Damania, Year 7

“ Being an anchor was fun and I loved being in front of the camera a lot. ”  
 Samson Adeola, Year 7

# Humanities

## Holocaust Memorial Day

This January, our students were invited to speak at Hackney Town Hall. Two of our 6th formers, Paulina and Ranae had been selected to take part in the Lessons from Auschwitz programme last term. As part of this project, the girls visited Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Poland. This was a difficult and personally challenging experience, and our students attended follow up meetings with leaders of the project to plan a response to the visit.

On Holocaust Memorial Day, Ranae spoke to a room of local officials, representatives of the Jewish community and members of the public about 'Not Being a Bystander'. Paulina followed her by speaking on 'Aspiration'. Together the girls delivered a message of hope for our school and their local areas; that we each have the power to stand up against inequality, prejudice and discrimination – and to invest in our future.

Tosin and Connacht from Year 8 also voiced their opinions, by reading their fantastic letters to Anne Frank, which spoke of their admiration of the teenager's courage in a desperate situation, and how inspired they are by her views.

Ms Rachel Irwin



Ranae and Paulina at Hackney Town Hall (above) and Conn and Tosin reading Anne Frank letters (below)



## Refugee Education Visit

Year 8 had a special visit from Edwin Addis as part of their work on refugees. Edwin was a refugee from Bosnia and told students how he had to flee with his wife and young baby when the war broke out and he was targeted. His story told of how, through a friend, he managed to go into hiding in a Serb apartment so was not found. He then managed to get himself on a bus that was heading out of the country. It was a brave and interesting talk, organised by Refugees into Schools. Year 8 have written fantastic letters explaining the unique experiences of refugees and why they need to access safety.

Ms Rebecca Warren





## Order in the Court!

### Year 8s gain practical experience of the UK legal system by taking part in a Mock Trial

Year 8 recently took part in the Citizenship Foundation's Magistrates Mock Trials. Students had to learn a case, about George Low, who has been accused of receiving stolen goods. They took the parts of the lawyers, magistrates, witnesses, legal advisor and usher.

With a short practise time they worked very hard and appreciated the help of some professional lawyers who came in to give them a helping hand. On the day there were some outstanding performances against Year 9 teams from the other school.

I have a feeling many will be back next year with an aim to win!

Congratulations and well done to: Kelell, Cynthia, Irem, Sabah, Tabassum, Bolu, Jamike, Esin, Michael, Danilson, Yomade, Melisa, Tosin, Laolu, Naomie, Adam, Khalid, Ilayda, Giovanna and Le'Andra.

Ms Rebecca Warren



# Mathematics

## Cambridge Maths Masterclasses

Year 12 Further Maths students were given the opportunity to attend the Maths Masterclass at the University of Cambridge. As we are interested in studying maths at university, the three of us, accompanied by our Further Maths teacher, Mr Francis, attended the programme on Saturday 18th February 2012. Our journey took just over an hour and when we got there, we were stunned by the view of the colleges.

The programme, which was held at the Department of Engineering, consisted of two taster lectures delivered by leading academic members of staff from the university and we had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions. We were also given an introduction to the admissions process by an admissions tutor and got to hear about life as a Cambridge student from current undergraduates. We solved fun maths challenges which gave us an insight to the fun side of maths. The masterclass has made our choices much clearer as to what maths related course we would like to study; whether it be Pure Mathematics, Engineering or a Computer Science degree.

On the whole we had an "a-mazing" trip to Cambridge and had lunch walking through the town centre. So we not only gained experience as to what it would be like to study at Cambridge, but also live in Cambridge.

Samroz, Paulina & Khushnuma, 6th form



## Exam Notice

GCE (A and AS-Level exams) will take place between Monday 14 May and Friday 21 June.

Please contact exams officer Julie Agrotis if you have any queries.

# Science

## Skidders' Celebrates National Science & Engineering Week

National Science & Engineering Week shines the spotlight each March on how science, technology, engineering and maths relate to our everyday lives and helps to inspire the next generation of scientists with fun and participatory activities. The theme this year was science in motion.

Students were involved in designing and making their own balloon powered cars using simple materials such as straws and Styrofoam. At the end of the week they got the chance to race their cars. Pupils also took part in the ideas challenge for 5 – 14 year olds asking them to invent a multi-terrain global racer that uses renewable power. Racers were presented in the form of a poster with a drawing of the invention accompanied by an explanation of how it works.

Ms Humera Akbar

## Wildlife trip

On a cold January day, a group of Year 7's went on a Science department bird watching trip to the RSPB Centre at Rainham Marshes. In addition to birdwatching, the students took part in a nature walk and had the opportunity to find living things in the ponds and examine them.

The trip succeeded in bringing science to life for some students with Yusra Abed commenting "I learnt that there are different types of birds with different types of wingspans. I learnt that an owl can find something that you have hidden, e.g. if you hid a mouse deep in the snow, an owl could find it straight away."

Mr Phillip Walsh



# Expressive Arts



## Barbican Box Project

We went to the Barbican in January at the start of our project "The Barbican Box". We went to see a mimed piece by Camille le Boitel called "L'Immédiate".

It was a visual feast and I was transfixed by the physical expressions of the performers. The set was also such great piece of work as it fell apart in front of our eyes. I really wanted to get into the set and play there was so much there. The play was split up into scenes which explored the idea of the world collapsing around us as we stood unable to stop the destruction. The actors ran, jumped, slid, crawled and somehow defied gravity around the set which was a constantly moving heap of what was essentially rubbish. But this set was full of meaning: one character had to deal with the world slipping into an angle and how everything became difficult as a result. This metaphor of global collapse could mean a range of things from economic to environmental but what it showed me was the hard work it is going to be and how we will have to work together to overcome it.

One of the most telling scenes was one in which a simple bottle of water became the goal of all the characters. They were so exhausted by the search for water that they moved slowly towards their goal. The bottle kept going out of reach and the way the actors moved was fascinating: some pulled themselves along by their ankles, their fingertips and by way of self-propelled wheelbarrow, it was the slowest race I've ever seen, but the determination to succeed was so strong that watching was compelling.

I was interested in the reactions of the audience. We were, by far, the youngest group of people there. Yet everyone had something to say about what it meant to them. The adults in the audience were laughing at jokes that we sometimes didn't get, but what amazed me was their laughing at a very important character. A woman came on stage, stood alone in the centre in a simple red dress. Slowly she collapsed to the ground, arms outstretched almost begging for help from us the audience. And people laughed. I found this astounding. This short scene was very touching, I watched a woman have some kind of breakdown and was not able to help. And maybe that is the point of the play. We were there watching the world around the characters collapse and we were unable to help. Will this be the same in real life? Let's hope not.

Kelell Davison Thomas, Year 8

## In the Mix

On Wednesday 29th February, when all the other students had a day off for teacher inset, we went down to the Rich Mix in Bethnal Green to work on our play "Help for Heroes".

This was a play which was developed by the Olympic Voices enrichment group and was written on the Olympic (and Skinners' Academy) core value of friendship. We took the idea of loyalty as a key part of friendship to create a story about a man, John and his dog, Rex, who have been through some tough times. It was selected from three plays submitted by Skinners' Academy to go forward into the Drama in the Mix Festival when we will be performing our play alongside other schools who are taking part.

When we got to the Rich Mix we worked with Leon on editing the script. The play is for the radio so we had to reconsider some aspects of it to make sure that the audience who would be listening to it would be able to understand it all. We then worked on scripts and sound effects. This was brilliant! We loved the scary stories and the crazy voices we could add, and the sound effects were wicked. We added some digital and live sound effects to our play and then went to work in the radio studio.

The radio studio is part of BBC London and we were working on a radio desk used by the reporters and news team. We listened to our voices back and worked out how we needed to change our voices to make sure that we sounded like our characters and not ourselves. Then we went back to the stage to practice the final edit. This is going to be performed and recorded live so we needed to practice how to hold our scripts and stay in role for the audience who are going to be watching us. We will let you know how our performance (21 March) goes!

Yomade Aileru, Year 8



# Art & Photography

## Developing a Tradition

### Skinner's Academy Sixth Form Photography students embrace the traditional photography process

On Monday 23 January, 17 Photography students, Miss Antolik and Nellie (Kids Company) visited a studio and darkroom at Kids Company Headquarters.

Prior to the visit students had taken a number of photographs that linked to their extended project with a film camera and were eager to see them developed. We were met by Carolyn Gaskell a traditional photography expert who introduced the students to processing and developing black and white film photographs. In addition, students were given the chance to use a professional digital SLR camera to take a number of photographs. They also had access to studio lighting and a number of backgrounds.

Ranaie-Jade explains her experience of the darkroom:

"We were first shown how to mix the chemicals, prepare the room and process the film (making the negatives). I was involved in calculating the correct amount of chemical to water ratio. After processing the film, we chose our negatives and then went two at a time into the dark room to develop the photographs. Once we were in the dark room, I was shown how to develop the negatives. I created a test strip with different exposures to work out which was the correct exposure for the image. We then developed our final image and left them to dry. I also created a Photogram. I enjoyed the traditional process and experience in the dark room".

Miss Olivia Antolik



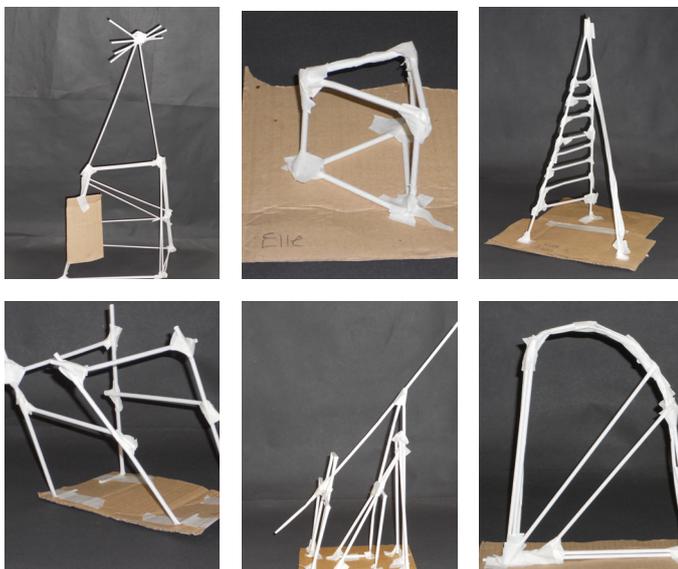
“ ”  
I had never seen a darkroom before and really enjoyed processing and developing the photographs using traditional methods. It was so different to digital photography and I learnt an awful lot.  
Ozlem Oz, 6th Form

### Student work: GCSE taster sessions

In March 2012, Year 8 students enjoyed Art GCSE taster sessions ahead of submitting their options. The task was to create a solid model structure and here are some examples:

### Student work: AS-Level Photography

6th form Photography students are working hard on their portfolios. Here is some of student Akpaljit Kaur's work





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**This project gave me the chance to understand the new creative and inventive technology being produced in the developing world today. The new up and coming technology of 3D printing was one in which we were able to test out in a way that was never tried before. I enjoyed myself extremely and would do it again**

Philippa McIntosh

## Technology in Art

Phillipa McIntosh, Ewelina Sniegon, Melanny Marin and Kasia Sadowska from A2 Art and Design participated in a 4-week project with a design practice called 'Something and Son' - a design practice rooted in a long history of British inquisitiveness and experimentation, applied to the creation of a more sustainable world.

Their work reflects the varied backgrounds and shared passion for social enterprise, the environment, engineering and art.

Rob Francis and Andrew Merritt from S&S followed out the project and a university student Nat Hilditch accompanied them. The project was to create an object using the new

3D printing technology that is being developed and in progress in the growing world of technology. They had to use the same process in which Phillipa made a lifesize pepper and Kasia made an ice cream on a cone. The girls used a layering process with the glue gun which was very time consuming and required patience. A layer of sand would be applied around the set glue and another layer of glue applied. This was continued throughout the making until the objects was complete.

The final outcomes were imaginative and creative. The girls 'expected the unexpected' with their work and it was smiles all round.

Mr Lennox Barton



“ ”

**I really had a good time creating something in a unique way. This 3D project was really useful as it gave me an insight into the new technology that is being produced.**

Kasia Sadowska, 6th Form



## Year 8 perspective

The programme is really cool because you can basically design a trainer or something else on the computer and choose to print a 3D version and it comes out exactly how you designed it - to scale on how big you wanted it in real life.

We made a 3D fruit so from whatever angle you looked at this fruit it would look like a real one just like how the printer would do it. It was really fun. I made a 3D printed Kiwi (pictured, left) it looked just like an ordinary Kiwi but just in black and white. It was one of the greatest opportunities for me to discover the way the 3D machine worked. It was a great project to work on and I loved it and I thank the two guys who came in to help. It was great!  
Tabassum Nusibhya, Year 8

“ ”

**The workshops we did with the Year 8 and A Level students were both really great... The process we used with the A Level students was such a success in our eyes that we will now be using it to make a lamp for the Milan Furniture Fair this April.**

Andrew Merritt, Something and Son

# In Focus: Achievers' International

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Well what is good about Skinners Academy is that the teachers are determined to make all of us, the children, try our best and be what we want to be. Also the teachers believe in us and they believe that we can do any thing if we put our minds to it.

Tyreeka Williams, Year 7

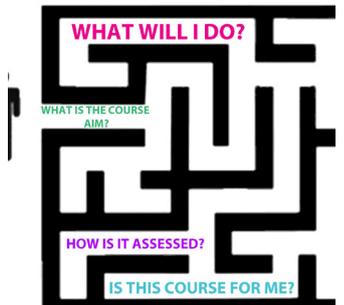


““

The best thing about Skinners' is that we get to do enrichment for an hour and we chose what we want to do. We also choose GCSE subjects earlier than any other school.

Ayub Abumaye, Year 8

## KS4 PATHWAY



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The thing I like about Skinners' Academy is that everyone is treated with respect. I like how when we have a problem we always have someone to talk to & especially like the way that we all seem to become a family. It doesn't matter what religion we are, what colour we are or the way we speak... we are all who we are. I think Skinners' Academy is excellent!

Anike Okusanya, Year 7



““

What is not great about our school Skinners' Academy?! The reason why I believe that this school is brilliant is because we students are provided with many facilities to help us with our education so we will have a range of options in the future e.g jobs. My favourite subject(s) are Art & Design, Drama and Music because you get to express your feelings. I give appreciation to the teachers because without them I wouldn't be achieving as much as I am now and also I wouldn't have been able to make many friends that I have now.

Jaden Hope, Year 8

““

What is great about Skinners' Academy? When the teachers are teaching they are trying their best to get us to do the work so we can learn. They don't give up.

Guilherme Da Silva, Year 8

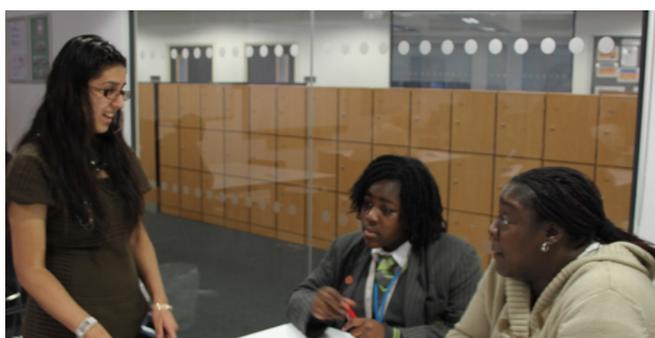


Above: Skinners' Academy steel band performs at the December wedding of Academy Governor, Sky News Reporter Harriet Hadfield.

““

The best thing about Skinners' Academy is its background. Because Skinners' has a long history it makes us stand out more than any of the other academies. I also love that the Skinners' Company has existed since approx. 1327.

Kadisha Kaur-Singh, Year 7



““

Skinners' Academy Sixth Form has been a positive experience for me. It allowed me to participate in many wonderful activities such as the EU Comenius project trip to Turkey and the Tall Ships Youth Trust.

Melat Haileselassie, 6th Form

### Core Values



Friendship

Respect

Determination

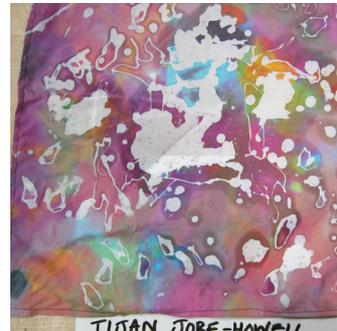
Inspiration

Courage

Equality

Excellence

# Design & Technology



## Year 7 Textiles Project: Aboriginal Batik Bandana

In the spring term, Year 7 students were challenged with the task of designing and making a bandana. It had to please their client.

This meant using Aboriginal Art for their design influence and Indonesian Batik for the textile process. Students really took to the task experimenting with tools such as the Titangting that really needed good hand and eye co-ordination.

I am very pleased with the results of their hard work!

Miss Bethany Stern

## Year 8 Food Technology: Healthy Eating for Olympians

Students were tasked to work in pairs or small groups.

Students had to study and follow the dietary requirements of a British athlete tipped for the Olympics. They also had to design a menu for their Olympian and then cook one planned dish as a team.

Students were marked on their presentation of the final product for taste testing and the cleanliness of their area. Many thanks to Ms J Williams for helping the design department during cooking finals week!

Miss Bethany Stern





# Additional Parent Information

## Parents Section of the VLE

We are pleased to confirm that the parent section of the VLE is now up and running.

We hope you find this helpful and encourage you to feed back to our VLE Co-ordinator, Peter Rafferty and/or Communications Manager, Gina Visram, regarding any content you would like to see included in this section of the site.



## Communicate with Us

We are always striving to keep a dialogue going between parents/carers and the Academy. Please see below for some of the ways you are encouraged to keep in touch.

### ONLINE:

Website: [www.skinnersacademy.org.uk](http://www.skinnersacademy.org.uk)

### The VLE:

As per the information above, you can now log in to the VLE and access our new 'Parent'/Carer page where you can access relevant information.

E-mail: E-mail enquiries@skinnersacademy.org.uk with the detail of who your correspondence is aimed at and this will be forwarded to them. You can also e-mail Gina Visram (Communications & Marketing Manager) on gvisram@skinnersacademy.org.uk to be added to the parent group email trial

### BY PHONE

You can call switchboard on 020 8800 7411 and we will take your message and pass it on to the intended recipient. We also sometimes send texts to the primary contact listed on student files. To update telephone number information please call the switchboard number and speak to Christine Ebejer.

### Social Media:

Whilst student use of social media sites is not allowed in school, and children under 13 should not be accessing these, we are aware that many parents find the use of these very convenient. As such, we now have a presence on Facebook (Search "Celebrate Skinners' Academy") and Twitter (@skinnersacademy – pictured left)

We are using the sites as a way of connecting with the wider community... and you are also welcome to follow us here



## Attendance Reminder

Please note that it is a legal requirement for parents and carers to ensure that school aged children (aged 5-16) go to school regularly and arrive on time.

Unauthorised absences can lead to legal action being taken against parents or carers. Skinners' Academy also encourages Sixth Formers to keep us informed. Please contact Jo Monrose, Attendance & Home Liaison Officer on 020 8 800 7411, Ext 109] by 8.30am to explain any absences.



# PE

## A Term in Sport

### Excellent teamwork and impressive individual achievements

Skinners' Academy has kept up the sporting pace in the spring term with an endless schedule of matches and tournaments.

From indoor rowing and athletics competitions to Year 7 & 8 football, boys and girls, as well as netball, basketball, rugby and more - Skinners' teams are gaining momentum and have achieved some impressive results!

To keep up to date, keep checking the VLE.

Ms Hobbs



## Basketball Game Report

### Skinners' Academy vs Petchey Academy

In March, the Skinners' Academy Year 7 boys basketball team took on Petchey Academy.

The initial line up included Soulaiman, Jonah, Peter, Mark and Richard - with subs including Samson, Matthew and Eren.

In the second quarter Samson and Matthew came on with 2 pointers scored by Samson, Soulaiman and Jonah - with Matthew scoring in quick pursuit, scoring another 2 pointer.

In the third quarter Soulaiman came off and Peter who was off in the second quarter swapped on. Samson went on a scoring streak and scored 3, 2 pointers. while Matthew scored a 2 pointer, Peter scored 2, 2 pointers and Jonah scored his penalty getting a 1 pointer.

The final quarter saw Soulaiman come on while Samson and Matthew came off. Mark also came on and scored 5, yes everyone 5, 2 pointers followed by a 1 pointer!

At the end Skinners' gave Petchey a shout and themselves a bigger shout and shook hands with Petchey. Final result 46-11 with Skinners' victorious.

Samson Adeola

## Inter-House Tournaments

Congratulations to JUDD House winners of the first Skinners Academy Inter House Year 8 Boys Tournament.

Player of the Tournament: Dylan Rhooms, Atwell.

Stay tuned to the VLE for the girls results.

## Sporting Recognition

Congratulations to Semmae Fenton and Yolanta Connolly - and to Hubert Suwala and Dylan Rhooms for earning the titles of Girl/Boy of the month, in January and February of this term.