

December 2016

Autumn Term
Issue 18

academy newsletter



It's a great pleasure once again to introduce another newsletter completely packed with a wide range of activities that have taken place at the Academy since September. At our annual prize giving in November we celebrated the academic successes of last year, most notably the outstanding GCSE performances by many former Year 11 pupils. This newsletter however, highlights the much wider success of the Academy: it is a superb testament to our belief in, 'Be the Best you can', and proof of our absolute commitment to the development of the whole person.

As you will all be aware, the sad news this term was of Mrs Jaffer's involvement in the terrible tram derailment in south London on 9 November. Whilst she will not be back in the Academy for several weeks I am delighted to report that she is making a good recovery. Mrs Jaffer and all those involved, remain in our thoughts and prayers.

I am also sorry to report that five key members of staff will be leaving us at the end of this term. Dabo, our Security Guard, has worked at the Academy since we opened, he leaves us to take up a Security position closer to his home; Mrs Clarke, an English Teacher, is relocating outside of London with her family; Miss Murphy, our Head of History, leaves to take up a job outside of teaching; Mr Fathulla, an Assistant Vice Principal and Maths Teacher, retires from the Academy, but has exciting plans for opening a new school abroad, and Mr Johnstone our Vice Principal and Chief Financial Officer, moves on to take up a similar position in an independent school in Cambridge. My sincere thanks to all four for their contribution to the life and success of the Academy, and we wish them every success and happiness in the future. As always, I thank all the staff for their continued commitment to the onward development of the Academy.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Tim Clark
Principal, Skinner's Academy





Hackney Youth Parliament

Skinners' Academy would like to extend our hearty congratulations to Year 10 pupils Rapheal Addai, Wesley Camara Baro, Tushig Baygal, Shakarah Edwards, and Year 13 student Anwer Siddig, who along with six pupils from other schools within the borough have all been elected to represent Hackney North for the Youth Parliament.

Elections for the 2016-18 Youth Parliament took place in October. The Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville, announced the election results at a special event at Young Hackney, Forest Road.

Hackney Youth Parliament represents the views of young people to decision-makers in the borough. They run regular campaigns on the issues that matter to you, and hold regular events and consultations.

There are twenty four elected members of the Youth Parliament and four additional members from specialist forums (young people with disabilities, Young Carers and Looked-after Children).

Ms Dalia, Communications & Student Support Officer/
Business & Community Links Administrator

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My love of politics led me to the Hackney Youth Parliament and I feel really proud to be elected to represent the borough I live in. There's a lot of things in Hackney worth celebrating; our cultural diversity and community cohesion, but there's still things that can be improved - I feel like I can make that change in our community.

Anwer Siddig, Year 13

MOvember at Skinners' Academy

On 25 November, Skinners' Academy raised £916.74 for Movember with a fun day full of MO activities and competitions, with the highlight event being 'Throw a sponge at Mr Shah's MO!'. Other activities on the day included:

- MO'fty day (own clothes day)
- MOve challenges
- Design your own MO
- MO treasure hunt
- MOvember style lessons/assemblies

Thank you to everyone who has already donated and for those who would still like to contribute please make a donation via:

uk.movember.com/team/2246448

Prize winners on the day included:

- Mo Treasure Hunt: Zafar Shohid
- Hit Mr Shah's MO: Ahmed Guthmy, Maruf Ahad, Antonia Ivanova, El-Shaddai Longo, Floriane Ungudi, Debora Bristot and Gabriel Bastos-Pereira
- Mo House Quiz: Hunt House

Ms Bouwers, Teacher of PE/AHOY 9 and the MO team!





Prize Giving 2015-2016



Prize Giving Celebrations

On 3 November, Skinners' Academy celebrated the fantastic achievements of our pupils from the 2015-2016 academic year when we held our annual Prize Giving ceremony.

The evening included performances from the school choir, Year 11 steel band, and a selection of pieces from some of our most talented piano players. Special thanks to Ms Adediran for the wonderful arrangement.

Prizes on the night were awarded by the Master of The Skinners' Company, Mr James Leahy. They featured prizes which recognised pupils for their progress in the 2015-2016 academic year within a particular subject, prizes for sporting excellence as well as SSOGA prizes for academic achievement and services to the Academy.

Subject Prizes Year 7	
English	Lucy Vu
Mathematics	Evinda Cagin
Science	Tajala Ali
Art & Design	Hope Kawa
Computing	Chin Ho Chung
Design & Technology	Aqdass Abdulqadir
Drama	Bruno Lopes De Carvalho
French	Yasmin Ali
Geography	Justyna Nowak
History	Basheru Sundifu
Music	Tate Palin
Physical Education	Sarah Kavalo-Chingani
Religious Studies	Ruhat Yildiz
Spanish	Eren Cinar

Subject Prizes Year 8	
English	Lauren Phillips
Mathematics	Ali Teke
Science	Kacper Felczak
Art & Design	Karolina Piatkiewicz
Computing	Aleksandra Marchewka
Design & Technology	Sharriah Guthrie
Drama	Berfin Koz
French	Ineta Bublyte
Geography	Akua Oseitutu
History	Mariangeles Espejo Jimenez
Music	Summer Gayle
Physical Education	Ionut Morar
Religious Studies	Isabella Carvajal-Vargas
Spanish	Chipaka Henry

Year 7 Sports Person of the Year	
Joyce Amisi	Maksims Lobanovs

Year 8 Sports Person of the Year	
Sumeya Hussein	Ali Dogan

Year 7 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Brunilda Aliaj	Willber Lima

Year 8 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Kehinde Shomuyiwa	Mohammed Abubakar

Year 7 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Boo Nero	Louis Duggan-Morgan

Year 8 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Emily Blagrove	Faheem Mohammed

Subject Prizes Year 9	
Mathematics	Peter Murphy
Core Science	Anne Muntean
Biology	Zubaid Amadzarif
Chemistry	Sam Boyer
Physics	Sude Akdag
Art & Design	Alan Litvinas
Business Studies	Acelya Yildirim
Computing	Pedro Beda
Drama	Leon Williams
Food Technology	Yusra Shohid
French	Deniz Koku
Geography	Jalal Masembe
Health & Social Care	Irem Orhan
History	Meher Kazmi
Music	Aaron Marson-Medley
Physical Education	Jesse Asiedu-Buoh
Religious Studies	Taher Ali
Resistant Materials	Shemul Ahmed Hossain
Spanish	Yaa Opoku
Travel & Tourism	Aasta Clark

Year 9 Sports Person of the Year	
Angel Lee	Filip Kurzynski

Year 9 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Briana Williams	Michael Layhe

Year 9 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Faith Fatai-Dere	Guney Aygin



Subject Prizes Year 10	
English	Emer Sheffield
Mathematics	Mehmet Elmadag
Core Science	Fuad Hussein
Biology	Keziah Malungu
Chemistry	Olivia Weston
Physics	Samira Abu
Art & Design	Selver Toygun
Business Studies	Fatima Begum
Computing	Mikolaj Krus
Creative iMedia	Osbert Barnieh
Drama	Stanley O'Rourke
Food Technology	Talhakhan Pathan
French	Gokcen Sevim
Geography	Francesco Antwi
Health & Social Care	Wiktoria Siczko
History	Stanimir Zagorchev
Music	Paloma Londono Franco
Physical Education	Zaher Khan
Religious Studies	Argtim Ibis
Resistant Materials	Tanvir Mohammed Hossain
Spanish	Sude Yilmaz
Textiles	Evangeline Appiah-Nuamah
Travel & Tourism	Afzal Hussain

Year 10 Sports Person of the Year	
Kapryce Ellis	Umar Patel

Year 10 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Beste Yilmaz	Moise Chiriac

Year 10 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Dalya El Ghorri	Miles Broomfield

The Wilkins Prize for Enterprise	
Selen Sucu	Aren Caton Yener



Subject Prizes Year 11	
English	Eleonora Sorodoc
Mathematics	Rayyan Bawazir
Core Science	Oliver Betteridge
Biology	Matthew Daniel
Chemistry	Daniel Nwanebu
Physics	Eren Kinali
Art & Design	Shequille Mandiangu
Business Studies	Mark Daniel
Computing	Derek Nguyen
Drama	Armend Bajraktari
Economics	Aishah Islam
Food Technology	Wiktoria Wilk
French	Amiud Dos Ramos Soares
Geography	Michal Lisz
Health & Social Care	Hanan Guthmy
History	Naeema Hanif
ICT	Ezgi Karraman
Music	Hallie Primus
Physical Education	Ameen Rahman
Religious Studies	Oluwatobiloba Shokan
Resistant Materials	Soulaiman Osei-Bonsu
Spanish	Stephanie Castano Reyes
Textiles	ReshamReej Lohia
Travel & Tourism	Emma Ellison

Year 11 Sports Person of the Year	
Wiktoria Tomaszewska	Eren Kinali

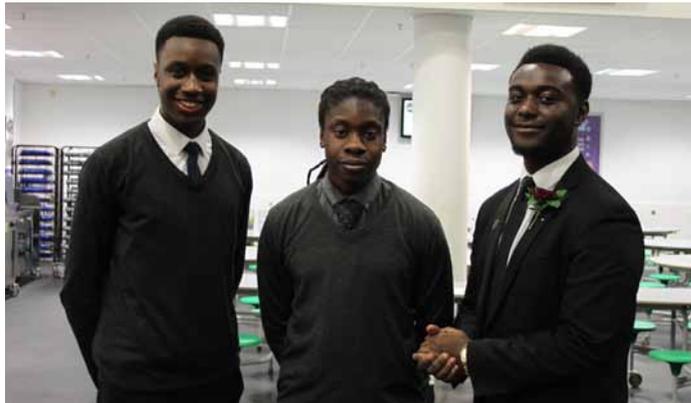
Year 11 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Yvana Tuladhar Lorenzo	Malek Busari

Year 11 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Elif Sucu	Samson Adeola

Subject Prizes Year 12	
English Literature	Leah Lawrence
Mathematics	Nasra Bana
Biology	Rebecca Greaney
Chemistry	Brando Williams
Physics	Kelell Davison-Thomas
Art & Design	Connacht Sheffield
Business Studies	Selin Kuday
Computer Science	Murat Apat
Drama	Sirin Gultekin
Economics	Nakasha Morton-Pindling
Geography	Valerie Bob-Manuel
History	Tabassum Nusibhya
Media Studies	Polina Halabitska
Psychology	Yolanta Connolly-Muzyczka
Sociology	Tosin Ajibade
Spanish	Nikolas Teran-Vaca
Textiles	Ilayda Tuncel

Year 9 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Tracy Tran	Michael Odetola

Year 9 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Esin Akdogan	Denzel Asiedu-Bouh



Enterprise

iRoundUp Has Raised over £10,000!

Tuesday 13 December saw team iRoundUp reunite at Skinners' Academy for the opportunity to promote the launch of their scheme with the help of a reporter and film crew from BBC London News.

The team which includes current Year 12 student Agnieszka Rudnik and former pupils Mark Daniel, Matthew Daniel, Daisie Spiteri and Elif Sucu, formed in Year 10, were the national winners of the 2015 Mosaic Enterprise Challenge competition. Their idea was a simple one – where pupils can volunteer to donate spare change to a nominated charity from the electronic currency stored on their ParentPay accounts. By working with ParentPay, the pupils' idea has become a reality.

Towards the end of November 2016, iRoundUp launched in all 6000 schools who use ParentPay's service. Within the first three weeks of the launch the scheme raised over £10,000 for charity with the first chosen charity being the Wallace and Gromit Children's Charity.

BBC London were very impressed by team iRoundUp's idea and agreed to cover the story for a feature to be aired between Christmas and the New Year. Filming began on Monday 12 December at Richard House Children's Hospice who rely heavily on donations to the Wallace and Gromit Children's Charity. One family at the hospice who have benefited greatly from the iRoundUp donations agreed to share their story and explain how the donations have changed their life (read team iRoundUp's thoughts on the family's story below). Filming at the Academy took place the next day and saw team iRoundUp being interviewed alongside their Mosaic mentor Brooke Greville, Nizam Uddin from Mosaic and the CEO of ParentPay, Clint Wilson.

I am extremely proud of the team and how their simple idea has changed the way we raise funds for charity; creating such a positive impact on vulnerable families. Well done team iRoundUp!!

Ms Dalia, Communications & Student Support Officer/
Business & Community Links Administrator

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We were all moved by the heart-warming story of Andreia and her two-year-old son Henrique who was diagnosed with a condition that means he was unable to speak. The iRoundUp donations have helped to fund Music Therapy for Henrique and a few days ago he was able to speak his first words.

Knowing that our scheme has helped a little boy to be able to speak was very overwhelming, and a few of us got very emotional. It's amazing to see how small donations can make such a big difference in someone else's life.

Team iRoundUp:
Mark Daniel, Matthew Daniel, Agnieszka Rudnik, Daisie Spiteri, Elif Sucu



How does iRoundUp work?

iRoundUp is simple. Whenever you make a payment online via ParentPay, you will be given the option to add a small donation to your basket, before completing your payment. The donations are calculated based on the payment amount you have chosen. e.g. If you top up £20 it will give you the option to donate 20p.

More information can be found on ParentPay's website



Sixth Form



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Taking part in the NCS project was one of the best experiences I've had. I made new friends, gained confidence and developed an understanding of how teenagers can make a big change in our communities. I've seen that as long as people have passion and are determined, we can make a change.

Dilara Sert, Year 12

National Citizenship Service

A group of Year 12 students completed a project with the National Citizenship Service over half term. They showcased their enterprise skills to produce a social action plan to give back to the community. The students organised a 50's themed party at a retirement home, a recipe book developed for elderly people, and organised a food drive collection for the Haringey food bank. As part of the scheme, students also attended a residential in Staffordshire where they took part in activities such as rock climbing and caving.

At the end of the week students received certificates for their hard work and attended a graduation event. Well done to all those involved.

Ms Muir, Post 16 Student Support Officer

Construction Careers Workshop

In October, students from Skinners' Academy took part in a three-day workshop which challenged their perception of what the construction industry is really about, and introduced a variety of professional careers that are available to them. This workshop was run in association with AECOM, the world's No. 1 ranked engineering design firm whose previous projects include the Shard, the London 2012 Olympics and the Millennium Bridge.

The workshop included a networking session with construction professionals, the opportunity to visit a live construction site at Long Street, Shoreditch, working through a project brief to complete a series of construction related activities with support from industry professionals and then delivering the output of their brief through a presentation.

Lastly, students took part in an employability skills workshop that culminated in a semi-formal interview with industry professionals and some will be selected to do work placements with AECOM as a result of their participation.

Ms Syme, Head of Sixth Form/Teacher of Geography

Lecture by Oxford's Professor McCartney

Geographers and Economists in Year 12 & Year 13 received a lecture from Professor Matt McCartney of Wolfson College, Oxford, based on 'The Poverty of Geography and the Geography of Poverty'.

The lecture questioned why land locked, historically compromised, tropically situated and demographically challenged countries may well find it hard to develop in the 21st Century.

Ms Syme, Head of Sixth Form/Teacher of Geography



A group of determined Sixth Form Students (and a handful of brave staff) are taking part in 'London's Winter Run' a 10K race which will take place on Sunday 5 February 2017.



The official charity for London's Winter Run is Cancer Research UK, however the students at Skinners' Academy expressed that they would also like to fundraise for UNICEF to support the work they do in Syria.

If you would like to support us please donate to either charity (or both) via the following methods:

Cancer Research:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/skinnersacademyCRUK
Text donations: UCSC91 (with the amount) to 70070

UNICEF:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/UNICEFskinnersacademy
Text: SACR91 (with the amount) to 70070



Debating Matters

The Sixth Form took part in their first public debating competition in the Hackney round of Debating Matters at Forest School. The topics covered included:

- Should monuments to controversial historical figures remain?
- Are Political Parties bad for democracy?

It was a challenging night which really pushed our students. We are immensely proud of our team.

Ms Syme, Head of Sixth Form/
Teacher of Geography

Business Studies

Sixth Form Book Fair

The Year 12 Business BTEC group hosted a book fair for all Skinners' Academy's pupils, parents and staff. The book fair was held as part of our Unit 18 studies and our efforts will go towards our overall grades. The book fair aimed to promote literacy across our school and encourage pupils to read more.

A challenge that we faced when organising the book fair was juggling to manage a large sum of money and a vast amount of customers at one time. We needed to provide a good level of customer service so our customers were satisfied and more likely to return and make more purchases of books.

What we all enjoyed about organising the book fair was delivering assemblies to promote the book fair and interacting with the pupils who came to make purchases.

Overall, we have had a great time planning the event and we would like to thank all pupils, parents and staff who attended the book fair and supported us. All the money raised will be given back to the Academy to purchase new books for our library on behalf of the Year 12 Business BTEC group.

Emanoelle Volpato, Year 12





Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)



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I am delighted that we have been given this award by the British Council as it reflects the tremendous work that has been going on in the Academy. We are keen to inspire pupils to learn new languages and to develop an appreciation and understanding of other countries and cultures; the award recognises that.

Tim Clark, Principal

“”

Skinners' Academy's dedication to internationalism is enriching education for its pupils by bringing an essential global dimension to learning and encouraging the development of skills children need to be global citizens of the future.

Stephen Hull, Senior Project Manager at the British Council

Foundation Level-International School Award

Skinners' Academy have been awarded the foundation level of the British Council's prestigious International School Award in recognition of our work to bring the world into the classroom.

The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools, so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need in today's world. Skinners' Academy demonstrates its international work through:

- Links between schools in Spain (Albacete, Valencia) and France (Marcon).
- Year 9 pupils often teach Spanish to Year 5 pupils from local primary schools.
- A yearly visit to Spain and France in which pupils stay with host families.
- Celebrating the European Day of Languages.
- Watching tango and salsa performances in one of London's top West End productions.
- Celebrating One World Day where pupils enjoyed food, performances and music from around the world

The MFL department in particular are overjoyed to hear the news, as the primary reason the award was granted is due to Skinners' Academy taking part in the British Council's 'Language Assistants programme', with our most recent assistants being Ms Machicado Sotoca and Ms Delos. Hosting a modern language assistant has enabled us to inspire pupils to learn a new language in school and beyond.

Ms Smith, Head of MFL

European Day of Languages

On 26 September, the Academy had a chance to explore different languages and to celebrate the diversity of our community when we celebrated the European Day of Languages.

All Year 8 pupils participated in a variety of language taster sessions ranging from Mandarin, Arabic, Punjabi, Japanese, Italian, Portuguese, Catalan, Albanian, Polish and Yoruba. We were very fortunate to have Year 12 students Michal Lisz, Anna Pietnicka and Armend Bajraktari assisting with delivering sessions in their own native languages.

In the afternoon Year 11 pupils Nicolas Goncalves and Francesco Antwi hosted a group of Year 5 pupils from Parkwood Primary School and taught them some basic Italian and Portuguese which they thoroughly enjoyed.

Ms Hunt, Teacher of MFL/Gifted Co-ordinator

Visiting Cordoba, Spain

35 pupils from Year 8-13 embarked on a homestay visit in Cordoba, Spain to practice their Spanish speaking skills and experience the culture and family way of life. It was a brilliant experience for them, with an itinerary jam packed with a range of activities.

With their host family, pupils had exceptional cultural opportunities. The host families knew very little English (if any) which left the pupils very little choice but to fully immerse themselves into the Spanish language. Pupils were therefore able to enhance their language skills simply by listening and absorbing the rhythm of the language and the accent. Pupils also got to experience what daily life was like in Spain and how simple things such as meal times were very different compared to the UK.

In addition to the experience with their host families, each day pupils visited a different city and got to see the various tourist attractions in that region.

Ms Smith, Head of MFL

“”

It was so much fun, learning about the history and culture of Spain, spending time with Spanish host families and walking the beautiful streets of Cordoba.

Denzel Asiedu-Bouh, Year 13



Day Two

- We headed to Seville to visit the Palace Royal Alcazar, which is an ancient royal residence from the time of the Moorish invasion. The gardens and architecture were magnificent and the pupils thoroughly enjoyed the scenery.
- We were then lucky enough to go on a horse and carriage ride around the city.
- Our second day ended with a visit to a bull ring, a cathedral and the expressive Giralda tower where we experienced some of the most spectacular views of Seville.



Day One

- Arrived in Malaga and headed to Torremolinos for a spot of lunch on the beach. It was warm, sunny and the pupils enjoyed the rich atmosphere.
- Headed to Cordoba where pupils got to meet their host families. Pupils were nervous, but they were also very excited.

“”

I was scared to meet my host family at first, but my nerves soon settled down.

My host family were very accommodating and treated me like I was their own daughter. It was an amazing experience.

Merve Aydemir, Year 10



Day Three

- We visited 'La Mezquita' a mosque which dates back to the 10th century. The pupils enjoyed a guided tour around the mosque which is now one of the most famous cathedrals in the world.
- We headed to a professional dance academy where pupils and teachers learned the basic steps of flamenco dancing.

““

Visiting Spain was such a unforgettable experience.

Magdalena Tutak, Year 9



Day Four

- Still in Cordoba, we visited the botanical gardens & explored the old town of Cordoba City.
- We visited a museum containing an exhibition of the rich Cordoban history, which characterises the peaceful co-existence of the Christian, Muslim and Jewish communities over the centuries.

International Spanish Scholarship

Year 12 students Armend Bajraktari and Miguel Chamorro have both been awarded a scholarship by Carlos V International School in Seville, Spain. Carlos V International School is renowned for its international study and this scholarship is a fantastic opportunity for British students studying A-level Spanish as a foreign language.

The recipients of the scholarship were chosen for their commitment, passion and attainment towards learning Spanish. Each student was required to produce an essay on one Spanish topic. The essays were presented to a panel of Spanish teachers in Seville, and thus, both Armend and Miguel were awarded this fantastic opportunity. The scholarship includes a seven-day trip to Seville where the students will be accommodated by a host family. They will be placed on an intensive Spanish course and take part in a range of excursions and cultural visits around the surrounding areas.

The MFL department would like to congratulate both students on this wonderful achievement.

Ms Smith, Head of MFL & Ms Garcia, Teacher of MFL

““

I'm very grateful to receive this opportunity. This will really enhance my skills in Spanish.

Miguel Chamorro, Year 12

““

I'm very excited to be able to study in Spain, I feel very privileged. I can't wait!

Armend Bajraktari, Year 12



Drama

Old Vic New Voices

Skinners' Academy were successful in getting a place with the Old Vic Theatre's School Club for the third year running! We are thrilled to have been offered the opportunity for more young people at the Academy to take part in this exceptional programme and have the opportunity to watch a variety of live theatre performances that the Old Vic has to offer.

Everything offered is free of charge to encourage a young audience to enjoy live theatre. In previous years this opportunity has only been offered to Drama pupils but we feel very strongly that theatre is for all, so this year it has been opened up to all pupils from Year 9-13 to apply via Mrs Quince if interested.

30 pupils took part in the first workshop for King Lear on 14 November followed by a trip to see the play starring Glenda Jackson on 22 November.

Mrs Quince, Head of Drama



Barbican Box Project

Year 10 GCSE Drama pupils will be taking part in the Barbican Box project this year. This project offers pupils the unique and rewarding opportunity to prepare a piece of original drama with their inspiration being drawn from a box of objects. 40 schools across London have the same objects and time with a professional theatre practitioner to create their piece. Then the schools gather for a showcase where we get the chance to see how others groups of pupils from different schools have responded to the box.

This year the box has been curated by the company Toneelgroep Amsterdam, Netherlands largest repertory company with director Ivo van Hove. We start work on this project in January and take the performance to Barbican in early March.

Watch this space for more information! We are looking forward to see the success and outcomes this year.

Mrs Quince, Head of Drama



Theatre Trips

Giving pupils the opportunity to see high quality live theatre is very important to the Academy. If you would like your son/daughter to take advantage of the trips available, then please encourage them to check the Drama notice board and see their drama teacher for more information. The trips that have been arranged so far are:

- Theatre Craft careers event - Year 11 and Year 13 Drama pupils
- School of Rock - Year 7 and Year 8 (Reward trip)
- Art & King Lear - 30 successful pupil applicants of Old Vic Schools Club
- Woman in Black - Year 11 GCSE drama class
- Obsession - Year 13 A Level Drama and Theatre Studies class
- Kiss and Cry - Year 10 Drama GCSE drama class

Mrs Quince, Head of Drama

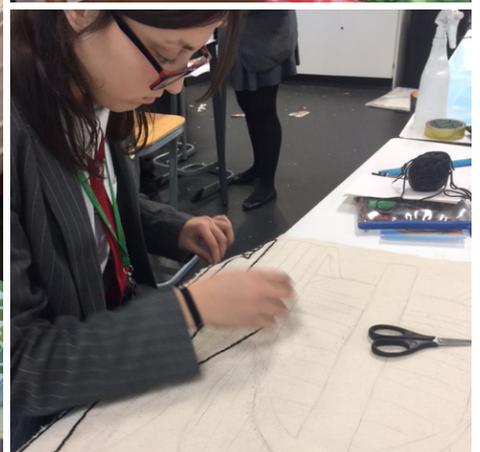
Art & Design

Year 11 Mock Exams

As part of this year's first mock exam, Year 11 were required to produce a piece of artwork under exam conditions over the course of one day and coped with the pressure extremely well. Some of the outcomes will be going on display in the Academy's foyer in January to highlight the outstanding pieces of work they have created. The art department are very confident that this year's cohort of Year 11 pupils will do brilliantly in their GCSE's.

The images here show the pupils working on their pieces and two finished pieces created by Tajai Brown (Portrait) and Onay Koc (Skull/Cityscape)

Mr Devlin, Head of Art & Design





Christmas Card Competition

This year's Christmas competition received more entries than any other year. The standard of work was very good and the range of ideas was very pleasing to see. The KS3 competition was won by Belen Pereira-Balcazar, Year 8, and she will receive a set of art equipment from the art department.

The artwork chosen for the Academy's official Christmas card was once again designed by a Year 12 student, Dilara Sert. She produced the festive creation using an etching plate. Etching is one of the oldest forms of print making and is technically very difficult to achieve. To bring a modern twist to the work, Dilara used Photoshop to add small hints of colour to a scanned image of the etch.

Mr Devlin, Head of Art & Design

Museum Visits

The Year 11 art pupils have been on trips to the British Museum and Tate Britain this term. Their responses to these visits have fed into their GCSE coursework and has enabled their own ideas to develop much further within a historical context. The art department's staff were all very proud and enjoyed being in the pupils' company, they are a true credit to the Academy.

Mr Devlin, Head of Art & Design



Year 13 Art Gallery & Commissions

The art department are setting up a permanent art gallery in the Academy's foyer with the view to sell framed pieces of work created by our Year 13 students. 10% of all profits received will be donated to charity.

In addition to the gallery space we now have three artists from Year 13 who pupils, parents/carers and staff can now commission to either draw or paint your portrait from a photograph. Tracy Tran, Year 13, has already received commissions and is working on these as Christmas presents.

For more information on how you can commission one of our Year 13 students to create your portrait, please contact James Devlin via jdevlin@skinnersacademy.org.uk

Mr Devlin, Head of Art & Design

““

Looking at the work in museums and galleries helped us to view our own work in a different way and motivates us to be more creative.

Selver Toygun, Year 11



Design & Technology



“ ”

I was able to shape my own pasta in two different ways – tagliatelle and angel hair.

Overall, the experience was really enjoyable.

Zack Fowler, Year 9

Congratulations Valerie!

During the last academic year, Valerie Bob-Manuel, Year 13, took part in a fashion futures challenge where she was selected to become a finalist and spent an intensive week at the University of East London expanding on her designing and making skills within Textiles.

As a finalist Valerie got to witness her design being modelled on a London Catwalk. Although Valerie did not win she did amazingly well to get so far in the challenge and I am very pleased that she wishes to follow a career within the fashion industry.

Ms Greco-Addo, Head of Design & Technology



Cooking at Jamie Oliver's

On 28 November, the Year 9 Food Preparation and Nutrition pupils had an amazing experience when they got to visit a branch of Jamie Oliver Italian restaurant. Pupils were taught how to make fresh pasta from scratch by a top chef and then got to create a dish using the pasta they had made.

This visit has reinforced the pupils understanding of how to prepare pasta and the working characteristics of different ingredients.

Mr Ojewunmi, Teacher of Food Technology

On the Catwalk with Fashion Awareness Direct (FAD)

My experience with FAD was one of the most challenging and amazing moments in my life, especially at the end when I got to go to London Fashion Week and present my design. During the first stage I was taught new skills like draping and using an industrial machine, which I haven't done before. I can use these skills in the future as I wish to continue studying fashion at university.

On judgement day, the judging panel included directors from ASOS and NatWest who sponsor the competition and were tasked with viewing all 80 contestant entries and selecting 20 contestants to progress on to the finals. I was so nervous, I thought my design wasn't good enough compared to the other contestants but they chose me! I was then entered for the summer school at the University of East London, to bring my design to realisation so it could be modelled on the catwalk for London Fashion Week.

I was so proud of myself when the model came down the catwalk wearing my design, because I've never done this before it was like seeing a dream come true. I was so glad to see my family and Ms Greco come to support me and see all the hard work I put into my design over the past few months. At the show's after party I finally managed to relax and got to opportunity to mingle with the models, including the one who modelled my design.

I want to thank FAD for the amazing opportunity.

Valerie Bob-Manuel, Year 13

D&T Club

This term in DT club Darren Boakye-Kwateng, Year 7; Abi Leance, Year 8; and Patrice Saunders, Year 8, have been making Bolster cushions and personalised Christmas stockings. All pupils have learnt how to independently use the sewing machine and it has been a pleasure working with them.

Ms Greco-Addo, Head of Design & Technology



“““

I really enjoy D&T Club! I have never been able to make clothes or cushions but now I can make loads of different things.

Darren Boakye-Kwateng, Year 7

Cadbury World

Towards the end of the last academic year, the Year 10 Food Technology pupils took a trip to Cadbury World, Birmingham, to learn about the manufacturing and making process of chocolate.

The pupils were taught about where different ingredients come from and what the different factories are responsible for in the making of a product. They also learnt how new concepts are thought up and why a company decides to remove a product from circulation. Finally, pupils received a guided tour of the Cadbury's factory and a couple of the pupils even had a go at tempering chocolate in front of an audience.

All pupils really enjoyed the day and did a fantastic job when it came to taste testing the chocolates.

Ms Greco-Addo, Head of Design & Technology

Design Museum Visit

Year 12 Product Design students visited the 'Beazley Designs of the Year' exhibition which was on display at the new Design Museum in Kensington, London. There were lots of innovative and unique design concepts on display that should definitely inspire our Year 12 students to become the next big thing in product design.

There were a host of design ideas from small independent design companies right up to large companies such as Apple, Adidas, the British Council and Tesla. We had a great time and the students look forward to putting some of the ideas that have inspired them into action within their own work.

Mr Williams, Teacher of Design & Technology

“““

The trip was great! It was really good to see the whole design process from start to finish This has given me some great ideas for my own project

Michal Lisz, Year 12





Computing



KS3 Computing: E-Safety Matters!

Key Stage 3 pupils in Computing have been exploring and developing their awareness of E-Safety through a series of tasks to help pupils develop their understanding of important matters relating to the use of technology. Pupils have been able to explore issues relating to cyber bullying, identity theft, online grooming, and digital footprints as well as:

- How to use technology respectfully
- The range of methods used to keep safe when using technology
- How to use technology responsibly
- Methods used to keep data and personal data secure
- How to recognise inappropriate content and identify ways to deal with it
- Recognise inappropriate conduct and discuss ways to deal with it.
- Discuss the impacts of using reporting mechanisms e.g. moral, social and emotional

Where can I get information or advice on E-Safety?

There are a whole host of resources and organisations that have created materials that can be used to further develop an understanding for all matters relating to E-Safety. These resources are worth checking out and will be helpful to pupils, teachers and parents:

- www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety
- www.kidsmart.org.uk
- www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents
- safe.met.police.uk/internet_safety/get_the_facts

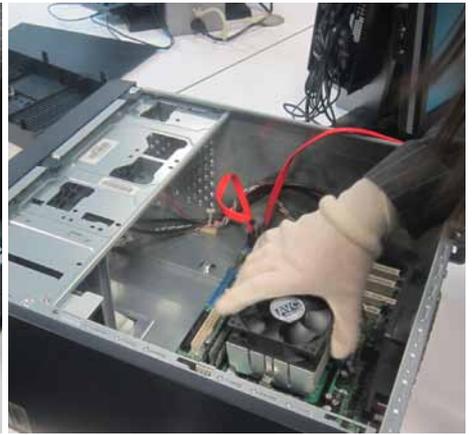
Ms Rao, Head of ICT/Computing



E-Safety is a good way to help combat cyberbullying and other safety problems online. It will be good to share e-safety information with your parents so they know what warning signs to look out for.

Harvey Montgomery, Year 8





Getting to know the Insides of a Computer!

Though many of us use computers every day for tasks such as checking emails, instant messaging and using the Web to conduct research, many people have no idea what goes on inside a computer. Dissecting objects is not only found in the science lab, it can be also found in a Computer Science lessons!

This term, Year 9 Computer Science pupils disassembled a computer. Their aim was to learn about the different components that are found inside computers and understand how they work together to perform complex functions. Components included the hard drive, CD ROM drive and CPU. The pupils were then challenged with reassembling all the components back together – in the correct place of course. It was a thoroughly enjoyable lesson for all the pupils involved and encouraged them to take on a more ‘hands-on’ approach to their learning.

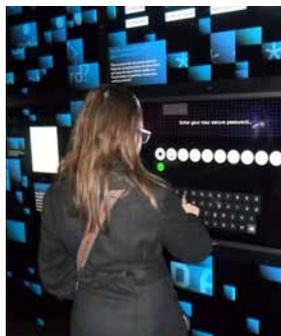
Mr Alexis, Teacher of Computing/HOY 10

““

The practical really helped me to build a better understanding of how a computer operates.

Learning about the components brings me closer to achieving my goal to become a computer programmer or developer

Lauren Phillips, Year 9



Visiting Bletchley Park

The Year 9 Computer Science class enjoyed a trip to Bletchley Park, home of British codebreaking and the birthplace of modern information technology. This was a brilliant opportunity for our Computer Science pupils to look at how the history of computing played a huge part in British history and helped promote the Academy’s support for British values. The workshops helped pupils to understand the importance of coding intelligence as well as cyber security which is currently a government focus to help keep our nation safe.

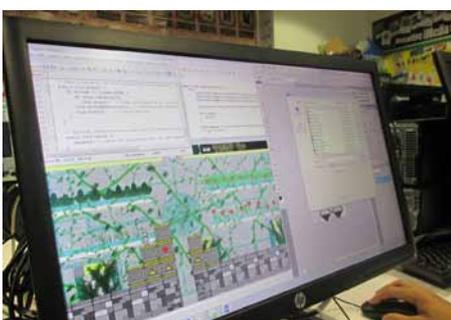
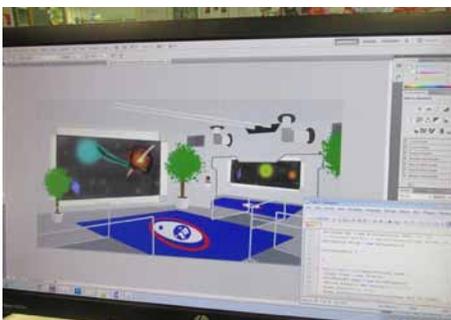
Exploring Chessington

Year 9 Creative iMedia pupils enjoyed a visit to Chessington World of Adventures where they experienced the industry wide process used to create, edit and use digital graphics for promotional purposes, helping them further embed the Academy's Enterprise skills.

This experience helped pupils to consider what they have learnt in their production of digital graphics unit for their coursework. It was fantastic to see how the pupils were motivated and inspired by this visit.

Pupils were able to see first-hand how the industry explores design ideas and materials to help launch new products and/or services and the use of digital image manipulation for effects purposes in order to achieve maximum impact for promotional and advertising reasons.

Ms Rao, Head of ICT/Computing



Year 13 Computer Science

A Level Computer Science is a practical subject which has allowed for the application of academic principles learned in the classroom to be transferred into use within real-world systems via a programming project. This has given our students the ability to be creative whilst combining invention and excitement. A computational thinking approach is helping students to develop problem-solving and analytical skills. Designing a system to solve a real life problem has enabled the use of the fundamental principles and concepts of computer science including: abstraction, decomposition and logic, algorithms and data representation.

The programming project in Year 13 is an opportunity for students to showcase their ability to deal with a real client and has resulted in communication skills being further developed.

Ms Rao, Head of ICT/Computing

“

The programming project has given me a chance to experience what it would be like to work on a task for an actual client. I am being challenged and assessed on my abilities to be a Computer Scientist – not as a student!

Kelell Davison-Thomas, Year 13

Travel & Tourism



Tourist Information Centre

On 10 November, Year 9 Travel and Tourism pupils enjoyed a visit to the Tourist Information Centre on Cockspur Street. This visit gave the pupils an insight into the products and services that are offered to tourists within the centre. In addition, pupils were able to collect promotional leaflets and brochures advertising specific places of interest for tourists whilst they are in London.

The pupils had the opportunity to experience a walking tour that included Pall Mall, Trafalgar Square and Leicester Square. This enabled them to see the popular landmarks and attractions which make London a popular tourist destination.

Ms Jackson, Geography/Travel & Tourism Teacher

Our Visit to Thorpe Park

On 2 November, Year 10 Travel and Tourism pupils enjoyed a visit to Thorpe Park. This trip enabled the pupils to understand the aims and objectives of the theme park and carry out primary research into how the park meets the needs of customers.

During the trip the pupils experienced a 'Guest Care' talk given by the Human Resources Manager which shared information on the marketing of Thorpe Park and the extra facilities that are put into place to make the park enjoyable for every single visitor. The information gathered from this visit will be included as part of the pupils' Unit 6 - Customer Service assessed coursework. Of course, a major highlight of this trip was the fact that all pupils had unlimited access to all the theme park rides!

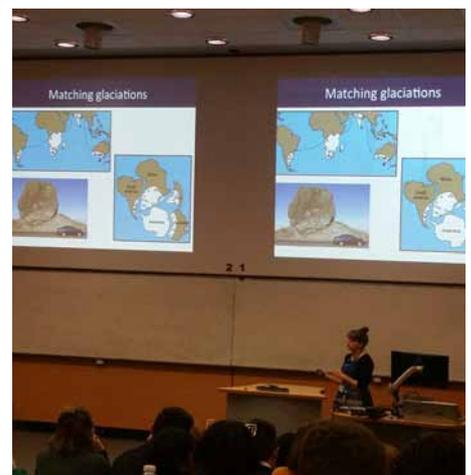
Ms Jackson, Geography/Travel & Tourism Teacher

Geography

This Term in Geography

- The geography Gifted & Talented group have been working hard on the Antarctica challenge where they have researched the various issues that Antarctica faces and have presented their findings to Year 7 pupils to help them understand the effects global warming is having on the world.
- Year 7 pupils have completed their rivers topics and have been able to experience first-hand how a river erodes after visiting the upper course of a river on their recent trip to Wales.
- Geography GCSE pupils are looking forward to their upcoming trip to Sorrento in the new year where they will be visiting Mount Vesuvius and the ancient city of Pompeii, as well as enjoying delicious Italian food and the impressive sights of Naples.
- On 23 November, Mr Lyons accompanied six A Level Geography students to a lecture at Queen Mary University of London. The lecture was given by Dr Lizzie Day of Imperial College London and was on the topic of Tectonic hazards - Earthquakes, Volcanoes and Tsunami. Dr Day spoke about her research into using seismic shock waves travelling through the planet to measure the intensity of Earthquakes. The lecture then briskly covered the evidence and implications of Tectonics and Tectonic events for us all. It was a fascinating insight and provided excellent revision for our A Level Geography students.

Ms McKinstry, Head of Geography



Nurture



““

When you drop litter, you don't think about the consequences. Lots of tiny animals can die if their habitat is ruined by litter. Always put litter in the bin!

Azad Cakmakyurdu, Year 8

““

I grew my own strawberry plant and I could eat the tiny strawberries from it.

Kirkney Lee Martin, Year 8

““

It was fun seeing the tadpoles change over the weeks and see their back legs grow.

Botan Bozoglun, Year 8

Helping Our Community

The Nurture Group were lucky enough to team up with Edible Landscapes London Ltd again last summer. Each week the group visited the site in Finsbury Park, helped maintain the grounds and learn about the impact of the community's carbon footprint. Edible Landscapes London Ltd promotes the importance of growing your own food within the inner city circle. You can see from the pictures that the pupils were making their very own pesto using a variety of ingredients they grew themselves at the site. We all thought it was very tasty!

The Nurture group also learnt about renewable energy and the impact pollution is having on the site. Fewer mini-beasts are being found in the local area and it is really important to maintain their numbers to avoid damage to their habitats. The group went pond dipping and collected various pond species such as tadpoles, pond skaters and water boatmen. They tallied the results and noted when there was a rise and fall in numbers.

Ms Cotgrave, ZiC SENCO

Speech, Language and Communication

Speech, language and communication needs have a huge impact on a young person's academic attainment as well as their social and emotional development. It is our role as Speech & Language Therapists (SLT) to support young people who have a range of communication difficulties, for example:

- understanding spoken explanations or instructions
- understanding and using a range of vocabulary
- explaining ideas verbally, using correct grammar
- reduced social skills such as those needed to develop friendship
- reduced team working skills

We also work with young people who have specific diagnoses such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Selective Mutism and those who stammer.

Sarah Birch and Karen Brock are the link Speech & Language Therapists (SLTs) for Skinners' Academy. Both are in school every Wednesday and Karen is also in school on Thursdays. We work alongside class teachers to offer advice, strategies and resources to support subject specific lessons being taught at the Academy.

If you have concerns about your child's speech, language or communication skills, speak to the school's Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator (SENCo) Ms Janner. She will be able to discuss additional support that your child could access in school.



Student Services



FGM Workshop

On the 17 & 18 October, Skinners' Academy was honoured to invite Leyla Hussein to run a workshop about Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) with pupils from Years 8, 9 & 10.

Leyla Hussein is a psychotherapist and multi-award winning campaigner on FGM and gender rights. Some of Leyla's recognitions include; winning the World Peace and Prosperity Foundation Award 2013 and named RedLine Magazine Women of the Year 2014.

The interactive workshops gave pupils an understanding of what FGM is and the national and global statistics on FGM. They talked about Leyla's personal experience of FGM and developed empathy for survivors. There was an open discussion looking at preventing individuals from being at risk of harmful practices and where to seek support. Pupils were then able to consider how they could tackle the stigma & discrimination that surrounds such issues.

Leyla was impressed by the thoughtful and sensitive approach the Academy's pupils had to the discussion of FGM. She also expressed being energised and encouraged by the pupil's thought provoking responses to the issue of harmful practices and the inspiring ideas they came up with for tackling gender violence and the stigma that surrounds it. Pupils expressed their commitment to continuing to spread the word about ending FGM and supporting survivors.

Ms Windebanks, Student Support Officer/Therapist

FGM The Facts:

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/482799/6_1587_HO_MT_Updates_to_the_FGM_The_Facts_WEB.pdf

Make Time

Along with hundreds of schools nationwide, this November Skinners' Academy took part in Time to Change's 'Make Time for Mental Health' programme. Time to Change is the mental health campaign led by Mind and Rethink Mental Illness funded by the Department of Health, Comic Relief and the Big Lottery Fund. Make Time is all about helping everyone feel comfortable to talk about mental health.

All year groups attended an assembly on mental health which related to their understanding of mental health so far and what might be affecting their mental health at the moment. For example, Year 7 pupils were introduced to what mental health is, how to look after your own mental health & support, and tackling stigma. Year 11 pupils looked at the impact of stress on their mental health and emotional wellbeing in relation to their upcoming GCSE mocks. They also reflected on ways of creating a positive response to stress and learned about coping mechanisms, including practising a mindfulness exercise.

We followed in the footsteps of the launch of two new anti-stigma campaigns:

- ♦ Heads Together, which is fronted by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and Prince Harry in partnership with inspiring charities with decades of experience in tackling stigma, raising awareness, and providing vital help for people with mental health challenges. Head Together's #thereforme campaign has created an online photo gallery asking people to take selfies holding up the name of people who are there for them
- ♦ The #Iamwhole campaign is a partnership between YMCA and the NHS, founded at YMCA's 'Right Here' project in Brighton. It is fronted by Jordan Stephens from Rizzle Kicks.

The Academy created our own #thereforme gallery and #Iamwhole video where pupils and staff demonstrated their dedication to the importance of talking about mental health and stamping out stigma.

One in ten young people experience mental health problems. Remember:

- ♦ We all have mental health the same as we have physical health
- ♦ Our mental health is the way we think, feel and behave
- ♦ Having a mental health problem is hard enough but sometimes the isolation and stigma can make it even worse
- ♦ You don't need to be an expert to talk about mental health or try to 'fix' someone's problems, just listen
- ♦ Talking about mental health doesn't need to be difficult and can make a big difference

Ms Windebanks, Student Support Officer/Therapist

Mindkit

Visitors from the City & Hackney branch of 'Mind' came to Skinners' Academy on 23 November to deliver the 'Mindkit' workshop to all Year 11 pupils.

Mind is the mental health charity which provides support to anyone experiencing mental health problems. An important part of their work is campaigning to improve services, raise awareness and promote understanding of mental health issues.

Mind have a network of more than 140 local branches who offer specialised support based on the needs of the communities they help. City & Hackney Mind is our local branch, which provides services to support the wellbeing, resilience and recovery of people in the area. They provide advocacy, for example supporting young people in police custody, wellbeing activities like mindfulness, talking therapies, education and support in the workplace.

Mindkit is an interactive Wellbeing and Resilience Session. It taught pupils about evidenced-based approaches to look after their mental wellbeing and boost their resilience, which can improve their ability to cope with life's challenges, their self-confidence and academic performance. The pupils got to try out some mindfulness exercises, which many described as very helpful and one of the most useful things about the Mindkit session. For more information, see me in room S20.

Ms Windebank, Student Support Officer/Therapist

The '5 Ways to Wellbeing' came out of research commissioned by the Government which showed that there are 5 things which everyone can do to boost wellbeing:

Connect...

Be active...

Take notice...

Keep learning...

Give...

Mindful Living incorporates Mindfulness, which is about focusing your attention on the present moment. This can involve; guided meditation, breathing techniques and/or other mind focussing activities. Being mindful can ease worry and improve mood.

Mindfulness: www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/pages/mindfulness



Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing - CAMHS Trip

On 16 November a group of Year 12 students taking part in the Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Enrichment Programme visited the City & Hackney Specialist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) at Homerton Row. They were greeted by the friendly staff and took part in a workshop held by Jillian Jagessar (the Central Team Lead & Clinical Psychologist, First Steps, Early Intervention & Community Psychology Service) and Vicky Rodriguez (Mental Health Nurse from Specialist CAMHS).

During the workshop the girls learned; what CAMHS is, the different professional roles in mental health services/ organisations and what they mean e.g. psychologist, psychiatrist etc., about referral, diagnosis and interventions offered, types of mental health difficulties and how mental health services work. What interested the students most was the fact that the young people who use the service had a lot of say in how they would like to be helped. This could be through the staff employed, to how the room is decorated. The group also discussed making CAMHS reflective of the diverse community it provides a service to and how they are making mental health services more accessible to various Ethnic Communities.

Mental health is stigmatised with misconceptions on how someone is supposed to be when diagnosed, such as Schizophrenia, where unfortunately some still believe that the person is a danger to those around them when in reality they are not (they just need support). This trip highlighted the importance of mental health and how you don't have to be a professional to help someone, you just need to be there for them.

Yasemin Kelimet & Magdalena Maciejewska, Year 12 students

Physical Education (PE)

Sports Personalities of the Year - 2016

At the Academy's annual Prize Giving Ceremony, we celebrated the fantastic achievements of our 2016 Sports Personalities. Here is why they were selected to receive the award...



Year 7	Joyce Amisi	Joyce made a remarkable start to Year 7, representing the school in athletics, football, netball and rounders. At the end of the academic year Joyce was appointed as the Year 7 athletics captain and received three gold medals at sports day. Joyce is an excellent sportswoman and a role model to other pupils with her 'never give up' attitude. She is a pleasure to teach and will always help her peers when needed.
	Maksims Lobanovs	Maksims is a pleasure to teach and puts a great deal of effort into every lesson. Not only does he represent the school in athletics and cross country, but he is also the captain of the rugby team. Maksims is willing to try any sport and always wants to achieve his best. His ability in sport has improved rapidly as he takes time in lessons and training to perfect his skills and game play.
Year 8	Sumeya Hussein	Sumeya has a love of sport and works hard in lessons, always giving 100% effort. She has represented the school in football, netball and rounders and will never miss a training session. Any new challenge Sumeya will take on with a smile on her face and will not give up until she takes the trophy home.
	Ali Dogan	Ali is an outstanding performer in extra-curricular sport. He has shown great progress in rugby and is currently on the rugby 1st team. Ali is dedicated to learning and improving his skills and game play and demonstrates this in every training session, taking on feedback and advice to improve his performance. Ali is now working hard towards his GCSE PE.
Year 9	Angel Lee	Angel has a positive attitude towards sport and has shown this in her hard work and determination in GCSE PE. She has represented the school in basketball and dance. Angel is a strong and determined sportswoman but is also very creative and thoughtful as displayed in her contribution towards dance club.
	Filip Kurzynski	Filip is a fantastic sportsman who enjoys playing all sports. As captain of the football team and all-around sports captain, Filip has led his team to a number of victories on the field and ensures they attend training sessions every week. Filip's strong leadership skills were put to the test during the football tour where Filip won player of the tournament.
Year 10	Kapryce Ellis	Kapryce has recently completed her Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and is currently studying for the Junior Sports Leader Award. She is not only a hard working GCSE PE pupil, but is also the netball club captain. Confidence, leadership and dedication are three words that best describe Kapryce and her approach to sport this year.
	Umar Patel	Umar has been the cricket captain for the past three years, leading the U13, U14 and U15 teams. He completed the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award where he proved he could lead a group successfully. He displays a positive attitude throughout his PE lessons and gives 100% at all times. He is currently completing his Junior Football Leader qualification.
Year 11	Wiktoria Tomaszewska	Within the Academy, Wiktoria demonstrates her love and dedication to sport through the progress she made in GCSE PE, achieving an A* in her practical coursework. Outside of the Academy, she is trained in Karate and has represented Great Britain at national competitions.
	Eren Kinali	Eren has made an outstanding effort in GCSE PE, excelling in every discipline. His work ethic is impeccable as he managed to secure a place at the Southend United FC Academy whilst studying for his GCSE's as well as being a vital player in the Academy's football team. Eren's hard work paid off as he achieved an A in his PE GCSE.



Duke of Edinburgh at St. James's Palace

On 13 October, myself, Armend and two of our Skinners' Academy PE teachers; Mr Howe and Ms Bouwers, made our way to St. James's Palace to share our experiences of taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh - Bronze Award in Year 11. We were greeted by Deb Dowell who gave us a tour of the palace, including the throne room which with no doubt was the most jaw dropping area of the palace to see with its gold frames and red accent details. Paintings of monarchs hanging along the hallways gave the palace a very historical feel, we could almost feel the presence of all the monarchs pacing down the halls.

Armend and I had the opportunity to share our experience taking part in the D of E Programme to a captive audience which included the likes of Mark Foster (former Olympic Swimmer) and Gillian Anderson (star of the X-Files), many of whom had themselves completed the D of E programme. With no doubt, it was an honour to speak about our experience and meet all the amazing people who are involved with the programme.

The D of E has been an on-going experience for me, the expedition itself was thrilling, full of anger, pain and most importantly excitement. Being given the opportunity to tell people about this experience has made me realise how much I value the opportunity to take part in the D of E programme. I truly cannot wait to complete my Gold Expedition now that I am part of the Sixth Form.

Magdalena Maciejewska, Year 12



Year 11 pupils who have completed their D of E - Bronze Award will have the opportunity to progress onto the Gold Award should they decide to stay on into the Sixth Form.



Duke of Edinburgh - Bronze Award

In October, 121 Year 11 pupils received their Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) - Bronze Award, resulting in Skinners' Academy yet again recording the greatest number of pupils completing the Bronze Award in Hackney. We are now one of the top ten schools in London to take part in the D of E and are the number one non selective/non fee paying school to take part.

The Bronze Award was presented to pupils who completed all four sections by Jack Kirby a representative from the D of E and our Principal, Mr Clark. The pupils completed the physical section through trampolining, boxing or vaulting; their skills section through first aid; their volunteering section in their own time; and concluded the award with their fourth section, an expedition to Epping Forest in July.

The expedition required pupils to form into groups of six. The groups had to navigate from checkpoint to checkpoint carrying their camping equipment and food in their back packs. When the groups arrived at the campsite they then had to put their tents up and cook their food using gas camping stoves. All pupils found the expedition challenging but rewarding and despite a few wrong turns they all successfully hit their checkpoints and completed their routes!

Pupils in currently in Year 10 are now working towards the Bronze Award with the aim of beating the 121 pupil pass target set by the current Year 11 pupils.

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE/Talented Co-ordinator



Sports Leaders Project

Since September I have taken part in the Sports Leaders project. I have learnt how to teach sports to young children, how to motivate them, how to make them feel included and how to keep them interested.

I have been teaching Year 4 pupils from Woodberry Down Primary School and I must say that they are really enthusiastic and energetic. Moreover, the chance to be able to teach younger children and to have fun has been fantastic and I wouldn't hesitate to do this again. The skills that I have gained from taking part in the Sports Leaders programme will really help me in the future and I am outstandingly happy at the outcome.

Tara Paul Reid, Year 11

Netball Fixtures - Results 2016

This term has seen our Year 7 and Year 9 Netball teams excel. Our fresh faced Year 7 team have conquered and are sitting in first position within their league having played four games.

Our seasoned Year 9 team have played incredibly well and are currently sitting in second place having played eight games.

Year 7 Fixtures	School	Played	Won	Lost	Draw
	Skinners' Academy	4	3	1	-
	Clapton Girls	4	2	1	1
	Mossbourne Community Academy	3	3	-	-
	Bridge Academy	2	-	2	-
	Petchey Academy	2	1	-	1
	Stoke Newington	2	1	1	-

Year 9 Fixtures	School	Played	Won	Lost	Draw
	Mossbourne Community Academy	8	8	-	-
	Skinners' Academy	8	7	1	-
	Stoke Newington	7	5	1	1
	Petchey Academy	6	4	1	1
	City Academy	5	5	-	-
	Hackney New School	4	3	1	-
	Cardinal Pole	3	3	-	-
	Clapton Girls	3	2	1	-
	Our Lady's Covent High School	3	2	1	-
Mossbourne Victoria Park	2	1	1	-	

New House Captains Announced

The new house captains have been announced and have an exciting year ahead! They are going to meet with Arsenal coaches to plan their own inter-house tournament where they will go head to head with other houses to earn the most points! This will be the first inter-house competition for the year so with all the scores currently at zero all is to play for to decide who will win the House Cup!

Ms Bouwers, Teacher of PE/AHOY 9



Girls' Cricket at Skinners' Academy

On 15 November, girls from all year groups took part in a cricket taster session led by a professional cricket coach. We played fun games which focused on skills such as throwing, catching, batting and bowling.

We ended the session with a fun cricket game where we rotated field positions and caught people out! We have more sessions coming up and are looking forward to a schools' tournament in the new year!

Simi Kaur, Year 9 (Cricket Captain)



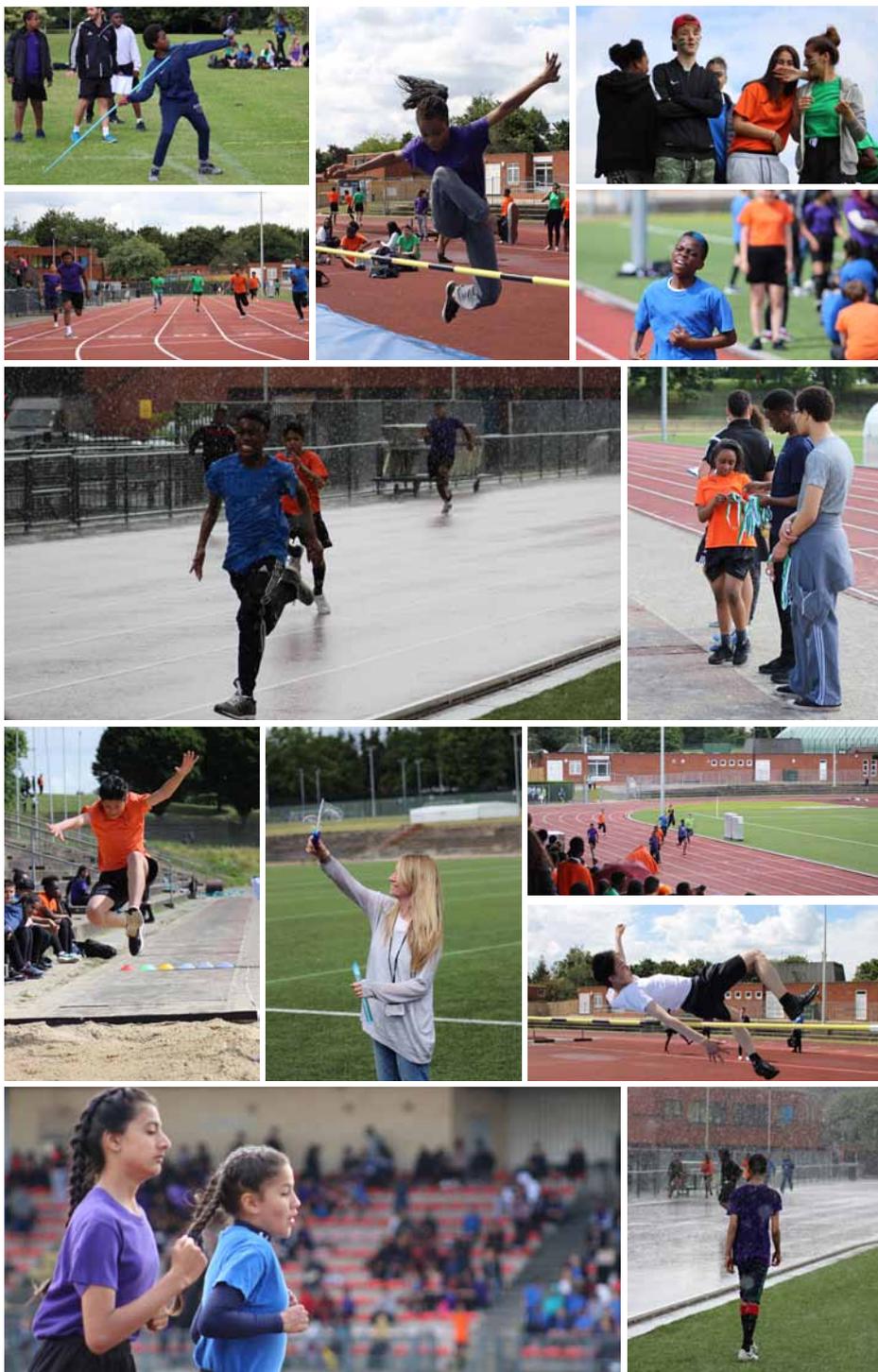
Rugby Trials for the England 7s

This year a few members of the girls rugby team were invited to take part in the trials for the England Rugby 7s team!

When I first got picked by the England 7s scout I was elated, but at the same time nervous because I knew that I was going to be up against some other strong girls. I was determined to do well and became more relaxed as the day went on.

The training team were very welcoming and have helped me to improve my skills as a player. The whole experience has been really exciting and I can't wait to continue training with the 7s team.

Zoe Larbi, Year 8 (Rugby Captain)



Sports Day Recap

Our annual Sports Day unfortunately didn't feature in our Summer newsletter because it took place right at the end of the term, but not to worry, here is a quick recap of the day's events.

The day started off really well, the sun was shining, the stands were filled with supporters and our young athletes displayed great determination in disciplines such as the long jump, shotput and javelin. What everyone was really waiting for was the excitement of the races.

Just as our runners began to warm up the heavens opened and unfortunately we had to stop the remaining races as we were flooded out by heavy rain.

Although we didn't manage to complete all activities we still managed to tally up the scores and announce that Judd had earned the most points and were the winning house of the day with a total score of 2058.

Ms O'Neill, Head of PE



Academy Production



A Midsummer Night's Dream

Performances begin at 7.00pm on...

- Wednesday 8 February
- Thursday 9 February
- Friday 10 February

Adults £4.50 | Concessions £3.00

To book tickets please email: enquiries@skiddersacademy.org.uk



Join our Production!

As you know, the Academy production this year is a musical adaptation of Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. The cast have been working extremely hard and we have now started to see the Academy band rehearsing alongside the cast in preparation for this magical production.

If any pupils are interested in helping back stage you should sign up with Mrs Quince before the Winter break.

If any parent or carer wishes to get involved to support the production, then we would also love to hear from you. Please e-mail Mrs Quince rquince@skiddersacademy.org.uk

Mrs Quince, Head of Drama

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.skiddersacademy.org.uk

Twitter:

@skiddersacademy; @skidders6thform

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/skiddersacademyhackney

LinkedIn:

Search Skinners' Academy

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 3 January

Staff Training Day

Wednesday 4 January

First day of the Spring term (Y7-13)

Wednesday 11 January

Year 13 Parents Evening

Wednesday 18 January

Year 11 Parents Evening

Wednesday 15 March

Year 10 Parents Evening

Wednesday 22 March

Year 8 Parents Evening

Friday 31 March

Last day of Spring term