

HAMMERSMITH

Academy



THE ACADEMIST

HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020 EDITION 8

IN THIS EDITION:

SCHOOL OF ROCK • PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME • LEGO WARS • MATHS ON FILM
MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKING • THE FELIX PROJECT • LIFE IN LOCKDOWN • STEM NEWS
WORLD BOOK DAY • DEPARTMENTAL NEWS • UCAS UPDATES • AND MORE!

A WORD FROM OUR HEADTEACHER



Needless to say that this Spring and Summer Term have been like no other that academies and schools have had to face, not just within the UK but globally. Students, parents and staff have had to adapt very quickly to teaching and learning remotely in a very short space of time. I am hugely impressed by the way in which everyone has handled the challenges.

Despite the restrictions coronavirus has brought, I am amazed at the sheer number of opportunities that our students participated between January and the lockdown. In this edition, you will see just how broad our enrichment offerings are, from theatrical performances and school trips, to marking important global events, such as Holocaust Memorial Day and World Book Day.

The musical, School of Rock, was an absolute smash with the audiences. The students involved really showcased their talents across the disciplines of acting, singing and dancing. The supporting student crew did a superb job of creating the set designs and lighting.

STEM is going from strength to strength, and the STEM programme is now very much embedded in our curriculum. Our student STEM Ambassadors took part once again in the First Lego League and came away victorious from the Faraday Challenge.

Sixth Form university offers have been most impressive this year with offers coming in from the Russell Group and others. The Insight Programme has attracted a diversity of speakers including one of the UK's top architects and a familiar HA face who has joined the Met Police.

The sheer number of sporting activities has been impressive, covering a wide variety of sport, including rowing, football, netball and table tennis to name just a few. Students have so many opportunities to be competitive and to develop a routinely active lifestyle.

Our charitable efforts continue to remain central to our Academy ethos. Our Big Quiz raised funds for Academy projects and our Sports Relief fundraiser saw students come to school in their sportswear.

I have been moved by the way in which the Academy and its community has banded together to help those most affected by the coronavirus crisis. Donations in excess of £900 have poured in to our essential support fund which provides families with basic but important items. Staff and volunteers have given up their time to unload, prepare and pack donated food by The Felix Project, a local food charity, taking pressure off families. We have also donated spare PPE and have helped secure 180 medical grade facemasks to donate to local frontline care workers.

One thing is abundantly clear, our Academy community cares. Enjoy this edition of The Academist. ■

Mr Kynaston, Headteacher

SCHOOL OF ROCK!



Bayan (Year 9) takes centre stage as hapless teacher Dewey Finn, in one of the many sets used in the show.

This year's school musical production of *School of Rock* provided an exciting opportunity to showcase what outstanding theatrical talent we have at the Academy, across all year groups.

The musical tells the story of Dewey Finn, a rock guitarist, forced to take up a real adult job to pay his rent. After failed attempts to hold down a job, he lands a teaching job in a school under the pretence of a man called Ned. With no real intention of teaching students, he daydreams his way through the school day. Before long, he finds himself setting up a school rock band and the children find a way into his heart!

The whole cast took part in a competitive audition process which involved singing, dancing and acting. Myself and Miss Slav had the very difficult decision of casting the individual parts. After a lot of deliberation, we assigned the roles to the students who we felt would really transform into the characters. Once the casting was finalised, students wasted no time rigorously learning and memorising their lines ready for the first set of rehearsals!

This year, our talented younger members of the cast were given

the opportunity to take on larger roles as members of Dewey Finn's class, alongside our very gifted older members of the cast who played the teachers and parents. The students really stepped up to the challenge, with the more experienced older students encouraging and supporting them throughout. It was fantastic to see this sense of camaraderie amongst the cast.

At the beginning of the rehearsal process, students took part in workshops to practically explore the personality traits of their characters. As they began to familiarise themselves with their parts, students would act scene by scene as well as learn harmonies and choreography to each ensemble number, but as time was running short there was still a lot to learn...could they pull it all together in time for the live shows?

It was inevitable that HA students, once again, produced a show that left the audience singing and dancing in their seats. It was fantastic to watch each student grow and develop into their character throughout this process and I am extremely proud of each individual student who were committed 110% during the process and on the show nights. ■

THE MODERN CLASSIC, SCHOOL OF ROCK, WAS A SMASH HIT WITH STUDENTS AND AUDIENCES. MS WILLIAMS TAKES US BACKSTAGE.

“The students really stepped up to the challenge, with older students encouraging and supporting them throughout.”

ONE OR TWO?

HEAD OF DRAMA,
MISS CRACKNELL,
SHOWCASES
IMPRESSIVE GCSE
PERFORMANCES.



Year 11 Drama students performed their examined GCSE pieces in front of a live audience.

In January, our extremely talented Year 11 Drama students took to the stage in front of a live audience for the last time this year to perform their scripted pieces. We had monologues, duologues and group performances of a range of texts, from John Godber's renowned comedies *Bouncers* and *Teechers* to Clare Dowie's powerful and thought-provoking *Why is John*

Lennon Wearing a skirt?. These students showcased their work to a live audience of parents, friends and teachers, demonstrating the ability to evoke and convey a wide range of emotions, exploring a wide range of issues and themes as well as utter professionalism in their interpretations of these texts. Well done Year 11 Drama! ■

DRAMA AWARDS

The School Musical Awards celebrates the hard work and talent of the student cast and crew involved in this year's show, *School of Rock*.

Students showed an incredible amount of dedication, rehearsing after school over several months.

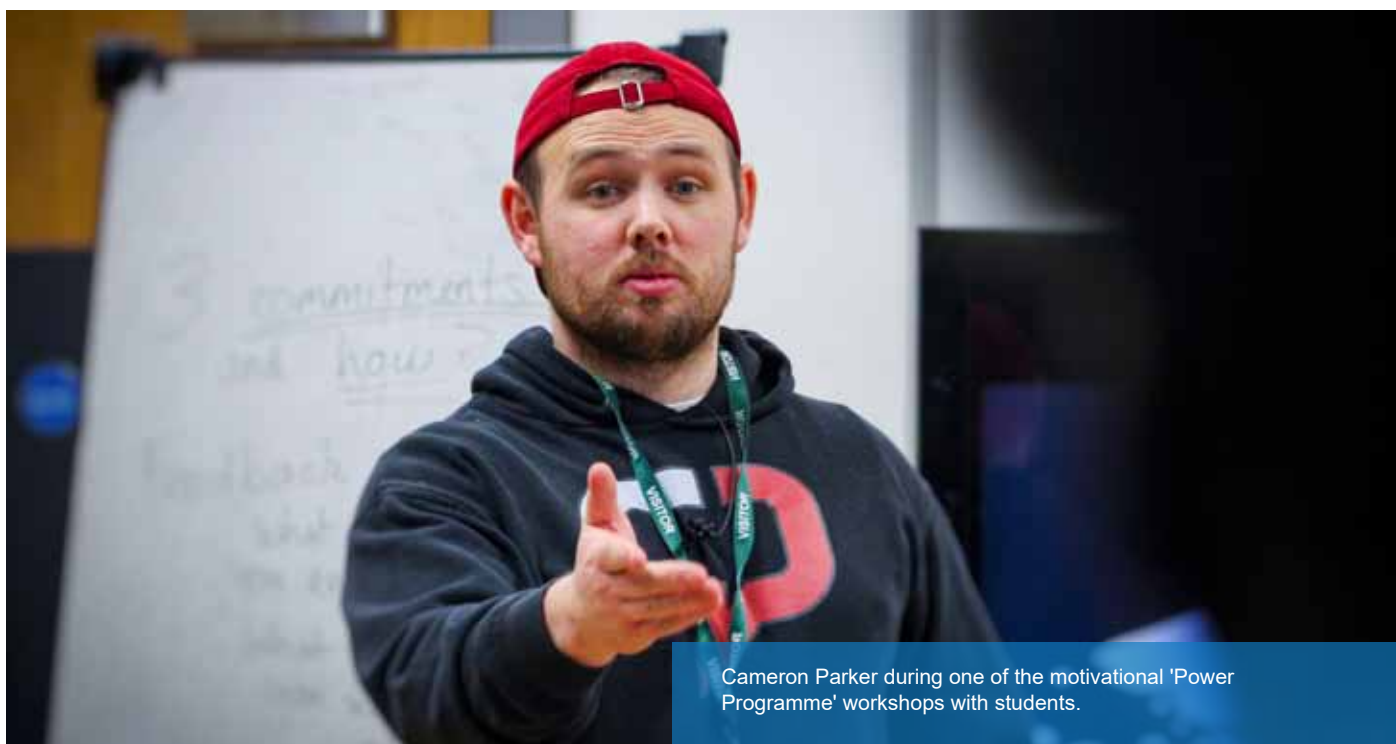
The awards this year was very different to the normal ceremony, moving online. Teachers recorded their messages to the cast which included a very special guest with Ms Slav! ■



Teachers recorded their congratulations and award presentations for the virtual ceremony.

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER

MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, CAMERON PARKER, DELIVERED HIS 'POWER PROGRAMME' AT THE ACADEMY. MS NKUNE, EXPLAINS THE BENEFITS.



Cameron Parker during one of the motivational 'Power Programme' workshops with students.

Cameron Parker is one of the UK's top motivational speakers and specialises in mentoring and coaching young people in schools, colleges and universities across the country.

This Spring Term, Cameron and his team were invited to work with students and parents and deliver his 'Power Programme,' which aims to help students develop a variety of important skills students need to reach their full potential.

Workshop 1 focused on resilience and growth mindset. After hearing about Cameron's own educational journey, students were asked to consider their aspirations and how they might achieve their goals. They discussed what they believed to be 'success' and the difference between success through luck and through hard work and effort.

Cameron delivered a Q&A evening

for parents, giving an insight into the programme and a chance to explore and discuss bespoke strategies they can use to support students at home.

Workshop 2 focused on goal setting and action planning. Students reflected on what motivated them to succeed and what might be preventing them from achieving it. They were encouraged to be open and honest about how they felt about their confidence and motivation. Many students identified time management as a real problem and Cameron was able to offer guidance on matters such as practical study strategies, discipline and the importance of action planning.

Students really engaged and many felt that the workshops had helped them reflect and felt they were ready to push themselves further in order to reach their potential and achieve both their short term and long term goals. ■

“Cameron is one of the UK's top motivational speakers and specialises in mentoring and coaching young people in schools”

THE BIG QUIZ

THE ACADEMY'S ANNUAL BIG QUIZ RETURNED TO THE THEATRE IN FEBRUARY 2020.

The brightest and best of the Academy's community assembled in the Theatre on Friday 7th February to battle it out to be named best quiz team. The evening raises funds for projects or equipment for the Academy.

The evening's quiz host, Ms Holland, put teams through their paces with a broad range of taxing questions, including the roads of the UK, film sound tracks and an entire round devoted to crisps!

In keeping with tradition, teams also had to get their creative juices flowing with a make your own costume round. This year's theme was birds and the quizzers did not disappoint, with some bright and interesting designs!

Overall, the evening raised £265.53 for the Academy's projects. ■



The Academy's Theatre was full of competitive quizzers all for a good cause.

SPORTS RELIEF

THIS YEAR'S SPORTS RELIEF FUNDRAISER COINCIDED WITH DROP DOWN DAY.

Sport Relief was created to harness the power of sport to raise money to help people who need it the most both in the UK and around the world.

The event supports organisations that are taking on the issues of mental health, child poverty, domestic abuse and helping people have a safe place to live.

Hammersmith Academy, took part in a sportswear fundraiser which coincided with Drop Down Day. Students and staff donned their PE Kits and sportswear, each adding £1 to the charity bucket.

In total £563.32 was raised for Sports Relief. A big thank you to all those who took part. The money will go on to fund important projects that will change the lives of many people. ■



Ms Holland collecting donations at the school gates.

REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST



Ms Samuels with Holocaust survivor, Eva Schloss. Students put forward questions for Eva to answer.

Each year, 27th January is Holocaust Memorial Day, marking the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp in 1945.

To commemorate this year's memorial day, the Academy took the opportunity to interview Auschwitz survivor Eva Schloss.

Many of you will know Anne Frank's story, a girl who did not survive Nazi persecution. Eva Schloss and her mother were two of just 7,000 survivors of the Auschwitz concentration camp. While Eva's experience of Nazi persecution is not unique, the fact that she survived is and her story can help us understand the experience of millions who did not survive the Holocaust.

For the interview with Eva, students were invited to submit questions for Eva to answer. There was a brilliant response from students, with almost one hundred questions being submitted across all Year Groups. I was immensely impressed with the

thoughtfulness and sensitivity of the questions asked, from what day-to-day life in Auschwitz was like, to friendships in the camp, her ability to forgive, her relationship with her faith, her advice towards minority groups today and many more.

A key message that stood out from the interview is that minority groups are vulnerable to persecution so it is all of our responsibility to speak up and protect each other and minority groups in society. We all have a duty to demonstrate compassion, solidarity and tolerance as one human race together.

I am enormously grateful to all the students who submitted questions and for their mature and compassionate approach towards the project.

A huge thank you to Eva who took the time to answer all the questions so thoroughly and giving an insight into that period of history. ■

THE ACADEMY MARKED HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2020 WITH A VERY SPECIAL INTERVIEW. MS SAMUELS TELLS US ABOUT THE OCCASION.

 **Watch the video:**

[Click here to watch Eva answer questions from our students.](#)

LIFE IN LOCKDOWN

ON 23RD MARCH 2020, STUDENTS ACROSS THE UK STARTED THEIR FIRST DAY OF HOME LEARNING. STUDENTS TELL US HOW THEY HAVE BEEN ADAPTING TO THE CHANGES.

Life in lockdown is a new experience for students, parents and their families and everyone has had to adapt to the challenges that have popped up as each week passes.

Students have been telling us how they have been coping and share some of their wellbeing tips.

Asya (Year 7)



Asya has been limiting her screen time and has focused on little projects.

I have found that staying home has really set the creative side of me to work. I decided that I should be doing something other than just sitting around on devices all day, so I looked around the house and saw we had lots of embroidery thread and material. I put my two favourite things together, Harry Potter and creativity, and started to do some embroidery.

I have definitely become more resilient and resourceful as I have no teachers around me so I have to see what information I have been given and make-do with everything I have been given.

The piece of work that I am most proud of is my DT fruit box as I was awarded star of the week in my class which I found really motivated me.

The advice that I would give to other students is to try and stay off devices as much as you can. I use an app called Hold which helps you stay off your phone. When you stay off your phone you get points and with your points you can buy things or get offers. Now is a good time to use the resilience and resourcefulness skills that you have learned in school.

Hannah (Year 7)

I have been spending my time doing 'Just Dance' with my brother as it keeps us fit without us having to leave the house, it is an activity that is fun to do. One new skill that I learnt in school which I have been continuing is sewing. I have been working on the toy that we would be creating in DT if we weren't in lockdown.

I am able to do my work on my own without needing much adult assistance which has made me more confident. I have also been helping and supporting my friends with their work as well if they find it difficult or do not understand.

The piece of work that I am most proud of is my alien which I created



Hannah has been sticking to a routine which includes daily exercise.

out of recycling. I found the project fun and enjoyable and would like to carry on doing things like this.

My advice is to have a good planned out routine including an alarm so you get a balanced amount of sleep and to have breaks where you do some exercise and have some fun.

“Now is a good time to use the resilience and resourcefulness skills that you have learned in school.”

Iman (Year 10)

During lockdown I have been perfecting my cooking skills. Making dinner for my family with meals such as sushi and various pies. I've really enjoyed this and I'm going to use such skills for a long time.

I realise that I have taken the freedom of leaving the house every day for granted, but it has strengthened my resilience to find other things to do.

My advice is to find something that you're interested in. I've begun to research things that interest me such as red-shift and moments in history, for example the 333rd artillery battalion, who fought in the siege of Bastogne in 1944 and consisted entirely of African American troops, eleven of whom were killed after being captured by SS soldiers. It has kept me busy and I feel more connected to the world of history! ■

MATHS ON FILM

ACADEMY STUDENTS MAKE APPEARANCE ON MAYOR'S FUND COUNT ON US CHALLENGE TRAINING VIDEO. HAFIZ (YEAR 13) EXPLAINS WHAT HAPPENED BEHIND THE CAMERA.



Students and staff being filmed as part of the new tutorial videos for teachers and students

The Jack Petchey's Count on Us Challenge with the Mayor's Fund for London, is a maths tournament for students in Year 7 to 9 across the Capital.

Students are tested on a multitude of mathematical challenges including, geometry and algebra tasks. Not only does it test their mathematical fluency, but also requires problem solving and team work.

There are four rounds in the competition:

1. **24-** It's simple, make the number 24 with the four numbers given on the card!
2. **Gridlines Geometry-** a variety of geometry problems where you have to find a solution using the 10 number cards you have been given. Pythagoras' Theorem, mensuration (area, volume, perimeter) and angles are tested here.
3. **Game of Hex-** a strategy game where you have to create a path from one side of a hexagonal grid to the other side. Played

with counters on a board when practising and with players on a mat at the tournament.

4. **Coding and Algebra-** a problem solving round with lots of unexpected surprises! Ceasar Shift Cypher Codes are used to code and decode messages; while also solving some quite tricky algebraic equations.

Hammersmith Academy has been part of the competition for the last 5 years and hosting rounds of the competition in the Academy Theatre in the last 4 years. Year 10 students from the Academy have also taken part in work experience with the Mayor's Fund for London team for the last 3 years. So when the competition organisers wanted to film video tutorials for training purposes, it was only right they came to HA!

Students in Year 9 and 10, along with Ms Suganthakumaran, Ms Weber and Mr Sykes feature in the tutorial videos. The aim of the videos is to help teachers and students learn about the different rounds so that they are ready to compete in the competition. ■

“When the competition organisers wanted to film ... it was only right they came to HA!”

SUPER SPEAKERS



PC Oussama El Azizi was formerly a receptionist at the Academy, before joining the Met Police.

THIS TERM'S GUEST SPEAKERS WERE ARGUABLY SOME OF THE MOST DIVERSE WE HAVE EVER HAD. HEAD OF CAREERS, MS HARROWES, LOOKS BACK AT THE PROGRAMME.

We're very proud of our weekly talk for Sixth Form students, the HA Insight Programme, and this year gave us plenty to think about. The compulsory Wednesday lunchtime session is designed to allow our young people to access a wide range of communities, opportunities and intellectual challenges. We want them to make connections and build cultural capital and insight, develop a wider range of skills and ideas to access top universities and careers, and grow their capacity to fight their corner in a competitive world. We aim for diversity, both in subject matter

and speaker, and this year's talks have included young female climate activist Noga Levy-Rapoport, newly qualified Met Police PC (and ex-HA Receptionist) Oussama El Azizi, student mental health campaigner Meg Zeenat Wamithi, Hawkins\Brown Architect Partner Harbinder Birdi, and Director of Collections for the V&A museum Dr Antonia Bostrum.

We've already got some fascinating names lined up for the next school year and would always be interested to hear from parents who have interesting contacts or life stories to tell. ■



Hawkins\Brown Architect Partner, Harbinder Birdi, took students on a tour of what London would look like in the near future.

RUSSELL GROUP OFFERS ROLL IN



Scenes from last year's A-Level results day, which saw students achieve university places across the country including Russell Group and Oxbridge universities.

This year's cohort have embraced not just a diversity of degree courses, but are also travelling further afield with their applications than previous years. Students have applied to Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Loughborough, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham, Plymouth, Reading, Queen's Belfast, Surrey, Sussex, Swansea, Warwick and York, as well as the usual applications to excellent London universities. Whilst we are extremely lucky to have the academic opportunities that living in London brings, living at home and going to university in London limits choices and restricts students to just 20% of Russell Group universities. The Russell Group have an unrivalled reputation with employers (although there are many more excellent universities that are not in the group) and we encourage our young people to have the confidence to look beyond London to get the best higher education available. Leaving home is an important part of growing up and helps young people build the connections and confidence to thrive in successful future careers. With offers coming in from all of the above universities, we're looking

forward to waving our Year 13s off to study an exciting range of subjects, and are particularly proud that we have so many young scientists who are keen to contribute to the NHS with places on degree programmes for Dentistry, Radiography, Midwifery, Nursing, Biomedical Science, Population Health and Pharmacy.

In spite of all this positive news, it is a difficult year for our students who are now looking forward to A-Level Results with so much uncertainty. However we are confident that their hard work in the first half of the school year will have paid off, and we know that universities have every intention of supporting this cohort into suitable degrees. Many universities have indicated that freshers week and the autumn term will not be the same as usual and that they will be offering online lectures throughout the year, alongside other distancing strategies. We encourage any Year 13 students who are worrying about their future to get in touch with the Careers Team and look forward to helping them all to firm up plans and to seeing them achieve their ambitions. ■

**HEAD OF CAREERS
& CULTURAL
CONNECTIONS,
MS HARROWES,
GIVES US A QUICK
ANALYSIS OF THIS
YEAR'S UNIVERSITY
APPLICATIONS.**

CAMBRIDGE ARCHITECTS

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN DAY FOR ASPIRING YOUNG ARCHITECTS FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS



Year 12 student, Isabel, being guided by an architect during the portfolio workshop. Students were encouraged to develop the confidence to trust in their artistic skills.

In March the Cambridge University outreach team welcomed eighteen Year 12 students to Lucy Cavendish College for the very first 'HomeGrown Plus Demystifying Cambridge Architecture and Design Day'.

Students began their day by learning about the importance of an architectural portfolio. Students had to practise their observational drawing skills by sketching the exterior or interiors of various spaces in College

After lunch in College students walked through Cambridge, enjoyed a tour of Trinity College, and went on to the Department of Engineering, where they took part in an engaging structural engineering workshop. Students were split into teams and tasked with building bridges made from paper. Their task was to see how much load their bridge

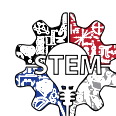
could carry, and it was certainly fun testing the newly built structures to destruction at the end of the afternoon.

Most of our Year 12 students had never previously visited Cambridge or a university. It gave them invaluable insight into the world of engineering and architectural education, as well as the realisation that they had the talent, potential and the raw skills to follow that path if they wish to.

Zorah (Year 12) said of the experience, "I am grateful to have gone on the trip. It opened my eyes to engineering or architecture and it helped me decide what path I could go down."

I am looking forward to seeing how they develop as young designers, engineers and architects. ■

“ Their task was to see how much load their bridge could carry, and it was certainly fun testing the newly built structures to destruction. ”



LEGO WARS

STEM STUDENTS GET COMPETITIVE AT THIS YEAR'S FIRST LEGO LEAGUE. MS FERRELL REPORTS FROM THE EVENT.



Four members of the Academy's First Lego League Team, led by team leader Liyan (Year 9).

“ I learnt the importance of working in a team and how much input from others can improve the quality of your work. ”

FIRST® LEGO® League is a global STEM challenge that aims to encourage an interest in real world design and engineering themes and develop key skills crucial for future careers. Young people work together to explore a given topic and to design, build and programme an autonomous LEGO® robot to solve a series of missions.

The League is for students aged 9-16 years, working in teams of up to 10 students with a supporting adult coach. Each year the league releases a new challenge that involves a robot game and a research project. This year's tournament was held at America School in London.

The competition has provided an exciting annual opportunity for Hammersmith Academy STEM students in Years 8 and 9 to explore, collaborate and problem solve; ultimately building and programming a robot, capable of autonomously completing a series of challenges during the tournament.

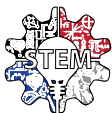
To prepare, the team divided into subgroups of expertise to tackle the architecture-themed missions, as well as building the presentations and props. They worked hard both before and after school, and received professional support from Worshipful Company of Information Technologists member and Head of Engineering at Popsa- Alex Bilbie, who helped them to strategise, and maximise the potential of their robot.

Core Values & Team leader, Liyan (Year 9) said, “I learnt the importance of working in a team and how much input from others can improve the quality of your work. I am really glad that I took part because I was able to learn different skills and have fun with challenges.”

The team improved on last year's competition where they were not able to score enough points in the robot challenge. They clearly learnt from that experience and demonstrated more determination to put Hammersmith Academy on the scoreboard. They presented confidently through the series, sharing their architectural design solution and demonstrating the FIRST® LEGO® League Core Values which include innovation and inclusion. The team performed particularly well in this round, and were judged as ‘exemplary’ by the panel in the teamwork and professionalism categories.

The investment of time and reflection on their past experiences paid off and this year they achieved a very commendable 165 points, placing them in the top 10 of the leader board. The Hammersmith Academy team members completed the tournament day proudly and left in high spirits, excitedly planning their return.

With a bit of reflection, extra practise and resilience, the HA team believe that they will be a force to be reckoned with next year! ■



MATERIAL MATTERS

THE MAKING MATERIALS PROJECT PROMOTES THE IMPORTANCE OF STUDYING THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES.



Year 8 students took part in group projects designed to foster curiosity in the physical sciences and create future engineers.

Year 8 students spent a day at Ironmonger's Hall as part of the Making Materials Project run by Oxford and Cambridge University.

During the event, students took part in a series of challenges centred on a number of scientific properties such as magnetism, corrosion and electricity.

Students really engaged with the topics and worked well in their teams to investigate and solve scientific problems and it was excellent to see them putting into practise what they had learnt both in their lessons and during the event.

We look forward to seeing the students' continued development. ■

CODE BREAKING

THE SCIENCE MUSEUM'S EXHIBITION PROVED A HIT WITH YEAR 10 STUDENTS. COULD THEY HACK IT? MS MCGECHAN REPORTS.



David tries his hand at deciphering Second World War messages at the Science Museum exhibition.

On Friday 7th February, Year 10 GCSE computer science students visited the Science Museum's "Top Secret: Codes and Ciphers" exhibition. The exhibition allowed students to see how coding and ciphering had taken place over time including the story around the enigma machine that was used during WWII at Bletchley Park.

Students were able to get a real understanding of how pivotal this was to Britain's victory in WWII and how ciphering has evolved over the years since.

Students also spent time around the museum and saw many other exhibitions and moments of science that have shaped the world they live in, including the development of modern medicine, and the space programme. ■

FARADAY CHALLENGE

FARADAY CHALLENGE IS AN ANNUAL STEM COMPETITION FOR STUDENTS AGED 12-13.



Hammersmith Academy's winning Year 8 team with the Faraday Challenge trophy.

“Clearly the hard work paid off as Hammersmith Academy were awarded the first place prize.”

The Institute of Engineering and Technology (IET) is one of the world's leading professional societies for the engineering and technology community. As a charity they are committed to encouraging young people to study and consider careers within the engineering and technology sectors.

The IET Faraday Challenge Days are run all over the UK and Hammersmith Academy participated in the London event held at Chiswick School, which involved six Year 8 school teams; four from Chiswick School and two from Hammersmith Academy.

This year's challenge was based on designing an engineering solution around the aerospace design pioneer, Airbus. The teams were given the opportunity to research, design and come up with solutions to tough problems. With a combination of creativity and problem-solving skills, they explored their capabilities as engineers.

All six teams worked incredibly hard throughout the day, coming up with high-quality solutions and working electric models. The teams then had to create a professional presentation to share their ideas to the judges.

Clearly the hard work paid off as one of the Hammersmith Academy teams was awarded the first place prize and brought home the 2019-2020 winner's trophy! The judges were particularly impressed with how the team approached the challenge and the way they worked as a unit. Our winning team has been invited to showcase their work at the Institute of Engineering at a future date.

Many thanks to Chiswick School for being such great hosts and tough competitors. ■

Winning Team

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| ■ Zoe | ■ Ted |
| ■ Juwon | ■ Geogria |
| ■ Leo | |
| ■ Ayushi | |



KEW EXPLAINER PROGRAMME



Iman with her fellow Hammersmith Academy Year 11 Kew Youth Explainer participants on the Treetop Walk at Kew Gardens.

IMAN (YEAR 11) BECAME A KEW YOUTH EXPLAINER. WE CAUGHT UP WITH HER TO FIND OUT MORE.

“Our coordinators have really stretched us as scientists and we have now gained so many new skills.”

What are the aims of Kew Youth Explainer Programme?

The programme aims to promote a higher level of understanding of plants to the public; we do this through a game to make their visit more interactive and to make sure they fully understand the plants. It is also really fun and you learn a lot!

What did you do on the programme?

I completed my CREST Award, which is a STEM based qualification, around the game we developed. We have also done extensive research with visitors at Kew Gardens and we have done a lot of talking to the public- this has really helped me to improve my interpersonal skills and my confidence.

What was the best experience you have had on the programme?

My best experience for me was the Sign Language training I received from the Deaf Women's Association. The skills I learnt will really help to communicate with hearing impaired people and to help them learn more from their visit to the garden.

How do you feel about the programme?

I've enjoyed the Programme so much. Our coordinators have really stretched us as scientists and we have now gained so many new skills. It's also a fantastic opportunity to meet like-minded people.

How does it benefit you?

I have made lots of new friends who have different backgrounds from my own. I was also selected to represent the programme at a climate change conference hosted by Sir David Attenborough. Unfortunately, this event has been postponed due to coronavirus.

What would you say to Year 9 students to encourage them to get involved?

Definitely go for it! It is such an amazing experience and you get to go behind the scenes of Kew and you learn all about the science of plants and how they make such a difference to the world around us. It also looks amazing on your CV, which currently only 120 people in the world get to say as it has only been running for 3 years! ■

THE ART OF SCIENCE

STUDENTS WERE GREETED BY FORMULAS AND SCIENTIFIC DIAGRAMMS IN THE SCIENCE CORRIDORS. WE TAKE A LOOK AT THE WRITING ON THE WALLS.



The Science corridors now have key GCSE and A-Level formulas and diagrams welcoming students into the department.

Students studying GCSE and A-Level sciences are expected to memorise key formulas and diagrams for their final exams.

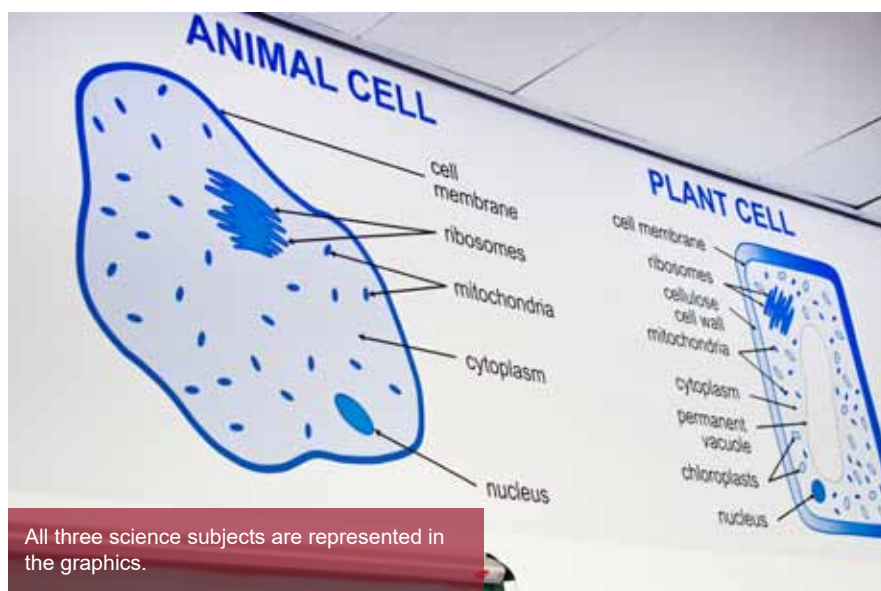
To help students achieve this, the Science Department has created a fresh eye-catching look in both corridors on the third floor.

Visitors to the Department are now greeted by giant cell diagrams, chemical reactions, the different types of atomic bonding and forces, which are explained using an image of a sky diver and how forces affect the diver during the fall.

The scientific wall graphics follow

on from last year's successful maths graphics installed in the maths corridor and in the cafeteria. These have proven to be an excellent way of improving student recall and application of principles. They are now able to picture themselves stood in the corridor.

Students from across the Year Groups will benefit, not only those in examination years but also students in Key Stage 3 will be able to familiarise themselves with the principles ahead of the curriculum. ■



All three science subjects are represented in the graphics.

NESTA WINNER

MS
SUGANTHAKUMARAN
IS NAMED A NESTA
CLASSROOM
CHANGEMAKER 2020.



Ms Suganthakumaran was praised for her innovative ways of encouraging students to solve maths problems.

NESTA is an innovation foundation that celebrates the use of new techniques to change the way we look at and solve problems.

To encourage problem solving in mathematics, Ms Suganthakumaran asked friends in industry to send in maths problems they have experienced in their working life which were adapted and used in lessons. Not only does this ensure an interesting variety of problems to work on, but also highlights the sort of real-world issues that maths skills can help to solve.

An example of a problem set was during Maths Week in June 2019,

when a panel discussion was organised for all students in Year 9 and 10. One panelist provided students with formulae and information about a scheme she worked on with Uber. The problem was printed into the workbook created for the panel discussion and students worked through it, with the opportunity to feed it back to the person who created it.

Ms Suganthakumaran was chosen from over 100 nominated teachers from across the UK and NESTA will contribute £5,000 towards the Maths Department. A huge congratulations from all of us at the Academy. ■

JACK PETCHEY



Congratulations to our Jack Petchey winners, Neve (Year 11), Sarah (Year 10), Emily (Year 7), Ernie (Year 9), Ahmad (Year 9), Fahim (Year 9), Anas (Year 8). They were all chosen for their outstanding contribution to school life, being excellent role models in terms of conduct and work ethic and going out of their way to help fellow students.

The winners were invited to a ceremony at Kensington Town Hall where they were presented with their individual awards. Well done! ■

BUSY BEES

THE ACADEMY WELCOMES ITS NEWEST AND NUMEROUS MEMBERS OF THE HA COMMUNITY.



The three hives are located on the third floor balcony outside the Science Department.

The Academy's rooftop garden is now home to three colonies of honey bees. The new additions are part of a drive to increase biodiversity in the local area, whilst at the same time supporting refugees fleeing the Syrian conflict.

The bees have been provided by charity, Bees and Refugees, who will also be looking after them on a regular basis. The charity will also benefit from the sale of honey the hives produce.

Students will be able to learn all about the importance of biodiversity and food production safely as the hives have been placed in a non-contact area, and can be observed behind glass.

Thank you Dr Kirwan for organising the delivery of our new arrivals and to Ali from Refugees and Bees who will be taking care of them. ■

WORLD BOOK DAY



Students dressed up as their favourite book characters for the Library's pop up photobooth on World Book Day.

This year at Hammersmith Academy, World Book Day was not just one day, but a whole week!

Throughout the week, students

were given a daily riddle to solve, all correct answers were put into a raffle and the winning answer got a fun book related prize.

Librarian, Ms Harney, set up craft stations around the library so students could create their own bookmarks using colouring pens, glitter and even some diamond stickers.

The library display "Where Will Reading Take You" got all our students involved designing signposts to exciting book worlds and Ms Harney encouraged students to pick out their favourite books to add to the display.

On Thursday 5th March, officially World Book Day, Ms Harney and her group of library helpers created a Library photobooth full of fun props for students to dress up as their favourite book characters. All students got involved in the fun, making this World Book Day one of the best yet! ■

THE FELIX PROJECT

HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY TEAMED UP WITH THE FELIX PROJECT TO HELP SUPPORT FAMILIES THROUGH THE COVID-19 CRISIS.



The Hartley family busy at the packing stations making sure that families had a balanced mix of produce from the Felix Project.

As the nation went into lockdown to help prevent the spread of covid-19, families have found themselves having to provide extra resources to support their children as they spend the majority of their time indoors at home.

To help ease the pressures on families, the Academy teamed up

with The Felix Project, a London based charity that collects fresh, nutritious food that cannot be sold and passes it on to families who can make use of it and saving it from going to waste.

The Academy received food donations three times a week, with volunteers on hand to help unload

and bag up the produce. Each delivery contained fresh vegetable and fruit, as well as basic essentials such as eggs, milk and rice. There were also sweet treats for students to enjoy.

Initially, we worked on the basis that we hadn't done it before so we started on a low amount of about 15 to 20 crates and now we're up to around 25 - 50 crates three times a week.

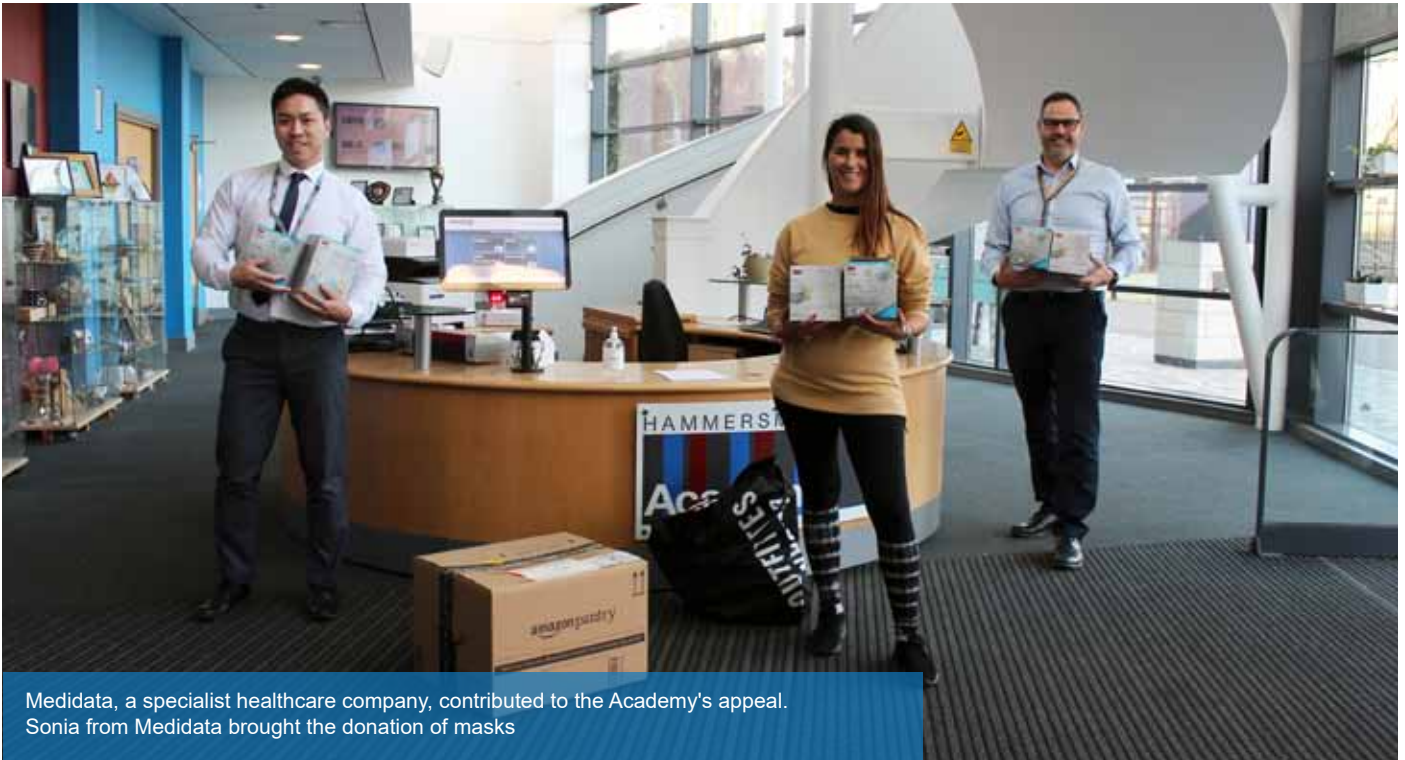
Within a month we've gone from feeding 30 families to approximately 70 families.

We would like to thank The Felix Project who have been so wonderfully supportive of our families during these challenging times. Without these regular donations, families would have to look for other forms of provisions which could be much further away. Having these available at the Academy has meant that they can be made available immediately and without families having to travel long distances. ■



The provision was only possible with the help of volunteers to packaged and distribute the produce.

PPE APPEAL



Medidata, a specialist healthcare company, contributed to the Academy's appeal. Sonia from Medidata brought the donation of masks

We have all been made aware of the difficulty frontline workers face during the battle against the coronavirus, which has been made more challenging with the shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

In support of those frontline workers, Hammersmith Academy launched a PPE appeal in April to help find equipment to contribute towards smaller local hospitals and GP services. The Academy's own Science Department raided their spare supplies of goggles and gloves to start off the collection effort.

FRONTLINE CARE WORKERS FACED A SHORTAGE OF PPE AND THE ACADEMY DECIDED TO HELP BY LAUNCHING AN APPEAL.

Medidata, a company specialising in clinical development technology and healthcare equipment reached out to the Academy, offering to donate facemasks to the appeal. Sonia Khamlici from Medidata arrived at the Academy and presented a phenomenal 180 medical grade facemasks to the cause!

The donations were split between local GP services Hammersmith Surgery, North Fulham Surgery and Ealing Mutual Aid who gifted the donation to Ealing Hospital.

A heartfelt thank you to Medidata for adding such a large and generous donation to the appeal. The PPE has gone on to protect those on the frontline helping to save the lives of so many people. ■

“ Medidata arrived at the Academy and presented a phenomenal 180 medical grade facemasks to the cause! ”

COMMUNITY



Some of the PPE donated by the Academy's Science Department.

SPORTS ROUND-UP

THIS TERM HAS BEEN A TYPICALLY BUSY ONE FOR THE SPORTS DEPARTMENT. HERE IS A ROUND-UP OF ALL THE SPORTING NEWS.



The Academy's netball team have had a superb season despite it being cut short by the national lockdown.

National Junior Indoor Rowing Competition

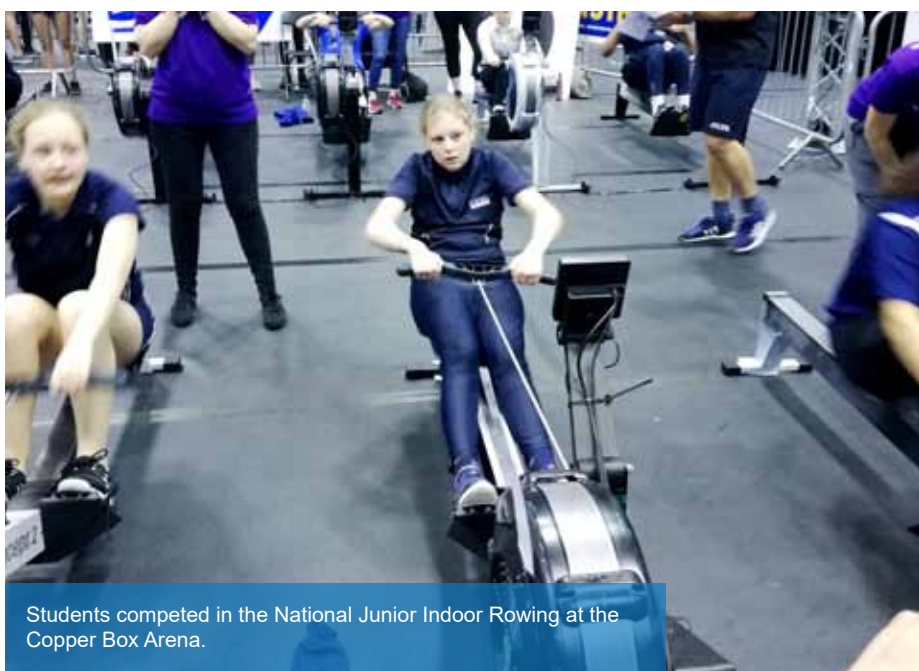
On the 28th February, 19 students from Year 8-13 went to the Copper Box Arena in the Olympic Park to compete at the National Junior Indoor Rowing Competition. Everyone had to complete an individual race on the rowing machine of varying distances

and times depending on their age group. All the students put in some impressive performances and almost everyone got a Personal Best score, but stand out performances have to go to Adam (Year 13) who came 12th nationally and Chika (Year 11) who came 15th nationally. Everyone also competed in a team relay challenge (Year 10-13 boys, Year 11 girls,

and KS3 mixed) where again HA performed brilliantly, beating some of our local rivals as well as teams from all over the country. Everyone who competed should be incredibly proud of their own personal performance.

Year 7 Boys Football

The Year 7s have had a fantastic debut season. We have seen maturity and leadership from all members of the team and excellent team morale. Captained by Samuel and his vice-captain Basset, Samuel also became the team's top goal scorer whilst Haytham showed some sensational saves over the season. With this being the Year 7s first year in the QPR League they showed a highly competitive and courageous attitude, going undefeated for the first four games. A loss to Fulham Boys saw an end to the undefeated run, which was followed by a draw to Holland Park. We ended the season early with the same number of points as first place but missed out on the top spot on a goal difference of 4 goals. It has been a great year for the Year 7s with a high turnout of students attending each morning



Students competed in the National Junior Indoor Rowing at the Copper Box Arena.

training session and showing a high enthusiasm towards our practice and matches. Top effort boys.

London Youth Games U13 Rugby Finals

The Year 8 Rugby Team competed in the London Youth Games Finals having won the borough competition earlier in the term. Representing Hammersmith and Fulham, the girls played 8 matches of rugby throughout the day and fully committed to some impressive tries, courageous tackles and resilient teamwork. The team was captained brilliantly by Suweysha and our player of the tournament was Amrita. The girls came out of the competition as the 16th U13 girls rugby team across London – a huge achievement. Well done!

Sports Hall Athletics

The Year 7 sports hall athletics team (girls and boys) attended several training sessions to prepare for the Hammersmith and Fulham Borough competition hosted at HA. The team had to compete against 7 other schools from the Borough in both track and field indoor events. The event was highly competitive for both genders with the boys finishing in a respectable 5th position overall and the girls finishing in a very competitive 3rd position. Excellent effort from all pupils involved – well done!

Girls Football

The Year 7 girls have attended early morning football training regularly, with 15 girls attending each week to develop their skills. The girls have worked hard in their QPR League games and are currently in 4th position in the table. Alongside this, the team also enjoyed an indoor friendly against Sacred Heart.

The Year 10 girls have been entered into a National Cup; Sisters N Sport for the first time this year and have successfully passed through the group stages and they are currently hoping to play their Quarter Final game of the plate competition. This competition has allowed them to experience playing their first 11-a-side games which they have played with great teamwork and resilience. In addition to this, the girls are also playing in the QRP League

which is giving them the opportunity to develop and improve skills. Some Year 9 girls have also been welcomed into the team this year.

Year 8 Boys Football

It has been a year of mixed emotions for the Year 8 Football Team. Despite numerous positive performances, HA have not had luck on their side, conceding two last minute goals in consecutive games to deny us valuable points. Nevertheless, the determination and enthusiasm demonstrated by the team has been exceptional. This year has seen the introduction of new players, Ibnul, Byron and Erlis, who have slotted in well to compliment our team. Despite suffering defeats to Chelsea Academy and St Thomas More, We are positive the team will have an excellent Year 9 season.

Year 8 Boys Rugby

It has been a fantastic season for the Year 8 Rugby Team. Within the local festival, HA went unbeaten, with Harry, Alex, Omar, Ryan and

Musa leading the way with some exceptional tries. It has also been pleasing to see Harry, Omar and Ryan all enlisting at Chiswick RFC to further enhance their skills outside of school - this can only benefit HA. We look forward to seeing how the boys progress in Year 9, particularly in the National Cup.

Netball

A core group of Year 7 girls have been attending netball practice every Thursday after school and working hard to develop their skills. They have also played in several matches against other schools in the local area and experienced winning against BDA and Latymer Upper. During this game they also saw a celebrity spectator; Ben Sheppard which was very exciting!

The Year 10 girls have also been developing their skills throughout the year and they have also experienced success against BDA and Sacred Heart which is very positive. In addition, both teams have enjoyed playing a variety of teams in the

Sportswoman of the Term

Georgia has shown her determination, resilience and her high commitment levels to the Academy's sports teams. Georgia's ability to form quality and respectful relationships between her peers and teachers has particularly been noticed. We have been astounded by her level of maturity. Georgia has shown high intuition and has continued to show this throughout the period of school closure, emailing in evidence of her home workouts.

Georgia has shown her commitment and enthusiasm towards sports by getting involved in every sporting opportunity provided at HA. Georgia is a core member of H&F's Cross Country team who came first at the London Championships. She has also shown her sporting ability in the Under 13s girls football, netball, indoor athletics and rugby team. ■



Sportsman of the Term

Haad has had a fantastic year once more within PE! Within GCSE PE, Haad has continued to progress well in both his theory and practical lessons.

What has been most pleasing is, despite the immense pressure of Year 11, Haad's engagement within extra-curricular sport has been ever consistent. Mr Wood has been fortunate enough to watch Haad playing for Ruislip RFC this term, most notably an outstanding performance against Wasps.

Furthermore, Haad has continued to represent the HA cricket team and made his highly anticipated debut for the football team against BDA. Although BDA ran out eventual 4-2 winners, Haad put in an outstanding performance, pulling off a memorable point blank save. ■



Hammersmith and Fulham Borough Tournament.

Well done to all the girls who have made the commitment this year to attend training and represent the Academy in matches outside of school. Keep up the great work!

Year 9 Rugby

Rugby for the Year 9s got off to a slow start but once they got a taste of the action in a winning friendly fixture against Westminster City, they showed a different view towards the sport. Dylan, Raphael, Elijah, Sean were among our top try scorers all showing their power, agility and speed when attacking the oppositions posts. The bravery of some of these students showed in tackling the opposition of a bigger stature and experience levels were highly rewarding to see. Although our first fixture finished with a certain win, our second fixture was completely different against Holland Park losing 50-5, nonetheless, the HA students showed some real determination against a well drilled and again highly experienced side in Holland Park.

However, Dylan and Sean showed their tactical game play bringing the HA try and Elijah's ball carriers into the Holland Park defence were some of the key highlights from the game. Again a very well done to the students involved within the Rugby team and I look forward to many more fixtures in Year 10s hopefully getting a few more of the boys into Chiswick RUFC.

Year 10 Boys Football

The Year 10s have been extremely committed to their football, showing enthusiasm and resilience throughout the year. The performances that the team have displayed have been pleasing and have improved over the year. Notable mentions are Chimdi, Jamie, Abdisalam, Elliot and Stanley who have all showed consistently high levels of performance. The QPR League has been tough for the Year 10s and results have been inconsistent. There have been narrow defeats to Capital City Academy, Chelsea Academy and KAA. A formidable opponent in Fulham College led to a heavy

defeat, although this was after HA went 1-0 up after dominating the early stages of the game, playing their best football of the season. Mr Beattie has been especially pleased with the attitude and commitment of the team over the year and I hope that this continues in Year 11. Well done.

Brunel Visit

The Year 10 GCSE PE pupils were given the opportunity to experience student life at Brunel University in the hope that they will feel inspired to study sport at Higher Education level, as well as gaining an insight into opportunities that studying sport can provide. As part of their day they had a tour of the campus and the fantastic sports facilities on campus and gained an insight into the sports courses available to study. Student ambassadors were on hand to answer questions and share student life at Brunel. A great day was had by all! ■

Follow Sports on Instagram

 @hasport1

Hammersmith Academy

25 Cathnor Road, London W12 9JD

T: 020 8222 6000

E: info@hammersmithacademy.org

W: hammersmithacademy.org

Find out what's going on at HA every day!



Like us on Facebook
facebook.com/hammersmithacademy



Follow us on Twitter
[@HammersmithAcad](https://twitter.com/HammersmithAcad)
[@HA_6thForm](https://twitter.com/HA_6thForm)



Follow us on Instagram
Instagram.com/hamacad



Subscribe on YouTube

