

HAMMERSMITH

Academy



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THE ACADEMIST

HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

JULY 2022 EDITION 14

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A WORD FROM OUR HEADTEACHER



This summer marks a very important milestone for the Academy, celebrating the first ten years of Hammersmith Academy.

It has been quite the journey from the initial architect drawings to the thriving, vibrant school that is HA today. The Academy community; students, staff and parents, have all contributed over the years to creating a truly special place that has a history and experience beyond its age.

Our founder, Tom Ilube, dignitaries and our sponsors, The Mercers' Company and the Worshipful Company of Information Technologists, who have been an invaluable support from the very beginning, came together for an evening of celebration to mark the anniversary. It was a fitting way to reflect on the past ten years and to reaffirm our mission of changing the lives of local young people.

This term has been a wonderful return of the 'normal'. Students have experienced a traditional summer term filled with extra-curricular trips, enriching the day-to-day learning. Summer examinations have been in full flow for the first time in over two years, a rite of passage of every student.

This summer has also been an exciting star-studded affair for our students, meeting England men's Rugby Team and a personal training session with England coach, Eddie Jones. Students also met Gary Lineker, for a special evening talk at the Design Museum on the impact design has on the game of football.

Our GCSE English and Drama students were visited by actor Finn Cole, who starred in BBC's adaptation of An Inspector Calls, for an actor's insight into the text.

It has been wonderful to see the largest cohort of students to date take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, with two Bronze expeditions this term. Our students really do value the outdoor experience, delivering invaluable life skills that simply cannot be taught in the classroom alone.

There have been innumerable trip experiences and opportunities across a very broad range of subjects and extra-curricular sessions. From animal handling to discovering Just Eat's business model; maths challenges to Prom on the Thames, and gallery visits to STEM exhibitions, it has been a truly enriching summer term.

Enjoy this edition of The Academist, and I wish students, parents and staff a wonderful summer break after what has been a busy and successful academic year. ■

Mr Kynaston, Headteacher

CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF HA



The Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham and MP Andy Slaughter joined Mr Kynaston to celebrate ten years of Hammersmith Academy.

The Mayor of Hammersmith & Fulham, MP Andy Slaughter, and entrepreneur, philanthropist and Hammersmith Academy founder Tom Ilube CBE joined Headteacher, Gary Kynaston and guests to mark the Academy's first decade.

Since opening in September 2011, the Academy has gone on to educate 2,765 of the borough's young people, providing them with a challenging modern education coupled with extensive access to socio-economic and personal development opportunities. The Academy has become the school of choice for many families in the borough and last year received over 1,000 Sixth Form applications.

The evening of celebration brought together the Academy's sponsors, The Mercers' Company and The Worshipful Company of Information Technologists, dignitaries, partners, alumni, parents, staff and governors to say a collective thank you for their support since the school's founding.

There were performances from this year's Buggy Malone cast who performed a medley, "Fat Sam's Grand Slam/You Give a Little Love" and Sixth Form student, Chelsea who played a piano solo of 'Love of My Life' by Queen.

The Academy's founder, Tom Ilube CBE sat down with Chair of Governors, Tom Hartley for a one-to-one interview, each asking the other about their involvement with the Academy. Tom Hartley, spoke fondly as both parent and Chair, and the privilege of making a difference to the lives of young people in the local community. Tom Ilube CBE recalled the moment the idea of an academy came to mind, "I sat down with another chap in a café somewhere in north London and we sketched out the idea of a brand new school that had technology, design and creativity right at its heart. We had a vision back then but it's gone beyond that. The school has taken on a life of its own, the students and staff, they shape the school to what it needs to be for this community and

**DIGNITARIES JOIN
CELEBRATION
TO MARK FIRST
TEN YEARS OF
HAMMERSMITH
ACADEMY.**

“The Academy keeps getting relaunched every year... so it's been a real joy to see it evolve beyond me and beyond my vision.”



Year 7 students took to the stage to perform a self-devised celebration performance for guests and dignitaries.

each generation of students define it again. In a sense, the Academy keeps getting relaunched every year as a new group of students come in, go through the school so it's been a real joy to see it evolve beyond me and beyond my vision."

Alumni then shared their experiences of the Academy and how opportunities provided by partner organisations have had a direct impact on them and their personal journey, leading to studying at Oxford University and Russell Group universities, working for Chelsea Football Club and Goldman Sachs and embarking on an expedition to the Amazon rainforest. Amari who went on to study at Oxford, explained how even today he still evokes the Academy's values to help him through challenging times.

Year 7 students closed the show with a self-devised performance about their first year at the Academy and how they are finding their own paths and goals.

The festivities were brought to a close by the Headteacher's address, who said, "These ten years have been an incredible journey for the Academy. To grow from an initial concept to the respected academic institution that it is today at the heart of our community has only

been possible through collaboration between our staff, students, sponsors, local community, parents and partners. We all share a pride in what we have created and the difference we continue to make to the lives of our young people. I thank all those who have come on this journey with us." ■

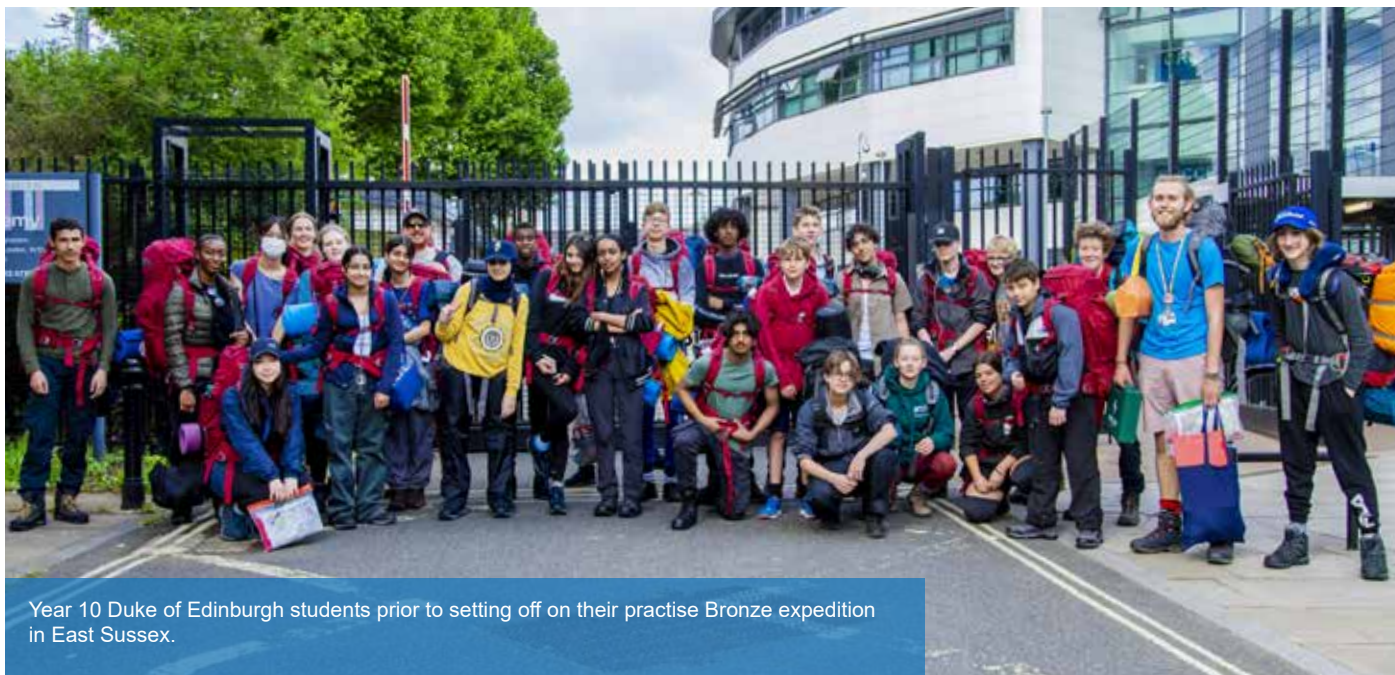
 **Watch the video:**

Watch the Academy's anniversary video here.



A tale of two Toms. Chair of Governors, Tom Hartley (left) and Tom Ilube CBE, Founder (right) interviewed each other on their involvement with the Academy.

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



Year 10 Duke of Edinburgh students prior to setting off on their practise Bronze expedition in East Sussex.

THE ACADEMY'S LARGEST COHORT OF DUKE OF EDINBURGH STUDENTS SET OFF ON THEIR FIRST BRONZE EXPEDITIONS.

“ This year saw our largest number of Year 10 students sign up to take part in the Bronze Award.

”

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a youth award programme that promotes the learning of life-skills, building confidence and resilience.

This year saw our largest number of Year 10 students sign up to take part in the Bronze Award which focuses on four main sections: Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition.

This term's focus was on expedition. Students must each complete a two day expedition, learning orienteering and route planning skills, and how to be self-sufficient.

In May, students conducted a practise expedition to Blackland Farm in East Grinstead, ahead of their assessed expedition in June to Bentley Copse, in Surrey. Students demonstrated excellent initiative whilst putting into action what they had learnt, including how to pitch a tent and spending a night in the great outdoors and being responsible for

themselves and each other. Students then transferred those skills into their final expedition.

A huge thank you to those parents who helped out to return students after the final expedition due to the train strikes! ■



Students enjoyed the evenings outdoors by the campfire.

MEET THE ANIMALS

STUDENTS GOT A CLOSE LOOK AT ANIMALS DURING AN INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP. ORGANISER, MS FRANCO TELLS US MORE.



Students handled the exotic animals, including a python, during the workshop under the guidance of an expert.

Earlier this term, Year 9 students were treated to a cross-curricular Zoolab workshop where they got a very close look at animals.

The purpose of the visit was for our students to learn and understand animal handling, ecosystem and animal adaptation. It was the perfect opportunity for our students to learn from an animal expert and see the animals firsthand.

Year 9 students were simply amazed to see the exotic animals such as stick insects, tarantula, gecko, python snake, giant millipedes, cockroaches,

giant African land snail, tree frog and a rat. For many students, the best part of the experience was holding the Royal Queen Python. Something most people have not experienced!

All the students that took part said how much they enjoyed attending and having the experience of holding and seeing these exotic animals. The experience gave them a lifelong connection to wildlife and demonstrated the part they can play in wildlife and habitat conservation.

The experience was of benefit to students on the ASDAN Animal

Management course and also linked with the Year 9 Geography and Science curriculum where students have been learning about habitats and adaptation. ■

“The experience was of benefit to students on the ASDAN Animal Management course...”

”

- Stick insects
- Tarantula
- Gecko
- Royal Queen Python
- Giant millipede
- Cockroach
- Giant African land snail
- Tree frog
- Rat



This beautiful gecko was a particular favourite amongst the students. There were many animals that students had never seen before.

THE RACE IS BACK!

THE ACADEMY RACE FOR LIFE SUMMER FAIR RETURNED AFTER A THREE YEAR ABSENCE TO RAISE MONEY FOR CANCER RESEARCH.



Students enjoying the race before the start of the Summer Fair to raise money for Cancer Research Race for Life.

The Academy's summer charitable extravaganza returned after a three year hiatus. The Race for Life and Summer Fair raises money for Cancer Research UK with students racing around the track, selling wristbands and ribbons and the Academy hosting a fair complete with raffle, tombola, food, plant and book stalls as well as masses of games for all members of the family.

It was fantastic to see so many families join in on the fun and be part of the festivities, which added to the great atmosphere.

A big thank you to all the parents who donated baked goods for the bake sale and to local businesses who provided prizes for the raffle which raised £470.61 alone!

The Academy raised a total of £1,284.99 for Cancer Research UK.

Total Raised
£1,284.99

Thank you to the local businesses who donated raffle prizes

- Bocconi Restaurant
- CHO SIM
- Brewdog
- Jackman's Irish Meat Market
- BellaBoo Pro Nails
- Cafe Bonego
- House of Hair
- Majestic Wine
- Tesco
- KAVE Coffee Bar



There was fun for all the family at the Summer Fair including giant inflatable games, face painting and food stalls.

HAYWARD GALLERY

HAMMERSMITH ACADEMY STUDENTS TOOK OVER THE HAYWARD GALLERY FOR A DAY OF ARTISTIC DISCOVERY. YEAR 9 STUDENTS TELL US ABOUT THEIR TRIP.



Year 9 Art students were encouraged to create their own artworks in the gallery space, inspired by the artist, Louise Bourgeois.

In March, Year 9 Art students were lucky enough to attend an exclusive viewing of the Louise Bourgeois: The Woven Child exhibition at the Hayward Gallery situated in the Southbank Centre.

Across the day, the gallery was open only for secondary schools and we were one of three schools lucky enough to be chosen to attend. Students took part in a private curator panel Q&A, a peer-led viewing of the exhibition led by the Sixth-Form students of St Bonaventure's, attended a 'behind the scenes' tour where they got to see the restoration process and made some collaborative artwork in the exhibition space.

It was an exceptionally exciting opportunity and students were quick to give their feedback on the experience. Faith said, "It was really cool to see artwork in real life. I haven't ever been to a gallery before and seeing the artwork Maman in

real life completely changed my view on it. It is an artwork we have learnt about in school, however the scale of it is totally different in real life!"

Carlos added, "I really liked going underground to the restoration rooms. When you go to a gallery you never really think of what is going on behind the scenes, you only think about what is in front of you. However, getting the backstage tour was really interesting and is a far larger job than I could have possibly imaged."

Lynna agreed, saying "My favourite part was making our own artwork in the gallery space. While it was a bit intimidating initially and not what we are used to, it then was really fun. I can forever say I am an artist who has shown artwork at the Hayward Gallery!" ■



Students had a tour behind the scenes including seeing restoration work in action.

DESIGN MUSEUM

STUDENTS ARE WORKING WITH THE DESIGN MUSEUM TO CREATE A PUBLIC OUTDOOR SPACE IN HOLLAND PARK. MS SAMUELS REPORTS ON THIS EXCLUSIVE ONE-OFF PROJECT.

This term, 30 Year 7 students have been lucky enough to work with the Design Museum in a unique way and we were delighted to be the only school in the country to be offered this one-off experience.

Combining our love for both sustainability and the Arts, students have had an exclusive opportunity to co-design a community garden at the museum, right in the heart of Holland Park.

Students have been tasked to design an inclusive space for people of all ages and abilities, co-designing the garden with the museum alongside other members of the community.

Across the programme, students have had workshops both at The Design Museum and in the Academy. They started the project by conducting a site survey of the garden to identify what plants naturally grow in the space, which has informed their planning for future planting. Students have learnt new skills around gardening, working



Year 7 students during one of the workshops at the Design Museum garden space.

towards a brief, budget management, and a breadth of design skills.

Students have been privileged to work with designer Angharad Davies who has collated their designs for the garden and finalising them with the

community group. It has been very exciting watching this project come together and we look forward to welcome you to our very own corner of Holland Park next year... watch this space! ■

TRAJECTORIES

To celebrate our GCSE and A Level artists coming to the end of their courses, the Art Department curated an exhibition to showcase all of their talent and celebrate their success with their friends and family. With the help of Thomas, Skarlette, Bayan and Mai, transformed the Theatre into our own Art Gallery.

Students, teachers, family and friends were invited to roam freely looking through the portfolios carefully built over the past two years. Bayan commented, "it is only when you see it all come together that you can see quite how impressive what we have done is. With art, you are only ever thinking about or looking at the artwork

right in front of you, but when you take a step back it really feels quite inspiring. Looking through everyone's projects from start to finish, it really feels like they have gone from being a KS3 art student to a real-life artist!"

The diversity in artwork across this exhibition is a reflection of the students' independence. A large amount of the artwork on display is about important, often personal issues and has been explored sensitively but powerfully. When looking across the exhibition, the sense of pride and achievement from the hard work of all our students really shone through. All of our artists can feel incredibly proud of their achievements and the strong trajectory for their futures. ■



The Academy's Theatre was transformed into an Art Gallery for the final show.

AN EVENING WITH GARY LINEKER

STUDENTS WERE INVITED TO A SPECIAL EVENT AT THE DESIGN MUSEUM TO MEET FORMER FOOTBALLER AND PUNDIT GARY LINEKER. MS SAMUELS REPORTS ON THE EVENT.



On Tuesday 24th May, we were lucky enough to take a group of Year 9 and Year 10 students to an evening with Gary Lineker at The Design Museum to celebrate their Football: Designing the Beautiful Game exhibition. Lineker, most recently known for presenting Match of the Day is the England's fourth highest goal scorer of all time and played for Tottenham, Leicester and Barcelona in his career.

The evening consisted of a conversation between Gary Lineker and museum director, Tim Marlowe. Across the evening, they reflected on Lineker's 44-year career including many of the highs and lows of British football, changes in regulations, new stadiums, emerging stars, club clashes, tournaments and trophies. The pair discussed why football holds

such a singular position within our collective cultural consciousness.

At the end of the discussion, the audience had the opportunity to ask questions and our own Amira, Year 10, confidently asked Gary Lineker a question in front of the whole audience about his own current heroes and role models.

After the talk, Lineker joined our HA students in the reception where he spoke to our students and answered their other questions, in addition to recording a video for everyone else about the importance of 100% commitment.

It was a very special evening for all students, everyone left feeling inspired, seeing the importance of football in a new light. ■

“ ... the audience had the opportunity to ask questions and our own Amira, Year 10, confidently asked Gary Lineker a question... ”

OXBRIDGE Q&A

YEAR 11 AND YEAR 12 HIGH ACHIEVERS JOINED AN OXBRIDGE SEMINAR, INCLUDING WHICH COURSES TO CONSIDER AND HOW TO APPLY.

In April, the Academy welcomed back former student, Calvin, who is in his final year studying History and Politics at the University of Cambridge. Calvin spoke to high-achieving students in Year 11 and Year 12 alongside Alicia and Matthew, two students in Year 13 who have received offers to study History and Computer Science respectively at Magdalene College, Oxford.

The seminars, structured as a loose, informal Q&A, were intended to dispel some of the common myths about applying to the universities of Oxford and Cambridge and to encourage students to consider it as an option, while acknowledging the challenges of both applying and studying there.



Alumni, Calvin, who is studying at Cambridge, led the Q&A and seminar for the Academy's high achievers.

While Calvin spoke about his experience at Cambridge compared to some of his peers at other universities, Alicia and Matthew were able to talk in detail about the application, having only recently

gone through that process! Both Year 11 and Year 12 students had lots of questions and many came away thinking that a highly selective university, whether Oxbridge or not, could be for them. ■

CAMPUS TO CASTLE

Selected Year 10 students went on a cultural exploration to Loughborough University and Kenilworth Castle. Amira recalls the trip:

We arrived at Loughborough University. Where we were greeted by some really nice people who told us about the different courses and opportunities they have at Loughborough.

We did a personal quiz that told us what we would enjoy the most at University and were then introduced to some students who would be our tour guides for the day. My group's tour guide, Charlotte, took us to a lecture hall, the cafeteria and walked us around the student living area. Everywhere looked amazing. When we were leaving we were shown a presentation and did a Q&A with the students.



The trip stopped off at Kenilworth Castle on the way back and students enjoyed a tour of the historic location.

After Loughborough, we travelled to Kenilworth Castle, it was so fun and full of history including some ancient battles. We played a huge game of hide and seek and took photos of

the beautiful Elizabethan Garden. I had so much fun on that day and we all learnt so many things about University, our futures and some historical facts along the way. ■

YEAR 7 CAREERS CONFERENCE



The career speakers were all under 25 and the majority are HA alumni which students found more relatable and approachable.

The end of June saw the launch of our first ever Year 7 Careers Conference, an opportunity for our youngest students to hear from six invited speakers in the early stages of their careers.

All the speakers were under 25 and most of them are Hammersmith Academy alumni, specifically chosen for their relatability and youth.

Students circulated around the

speaker carousel, visiting each one in turn for a short presentation and opportunity to ask loads of searching questions about GCSE and A Level choices, making decisions about career paths and what it's actually like in the workplace day-to-day.

Year 7 met Anis (Junior Physician Associate), Hamza (IBM Apprentice Business Consultant), Nawaal (Degree Apprentice Site Engineer), Hadeel (Theatre Producer and

Charity Apprentice), Merlin and Zayem (Advertising Account Manager and Junior Strategist) who were super friendly, insightful and prepared to answer all sorts of questions with enthusiasm. Three of them had gone straight to university and three straight into work, with two of the apprentices now completing a degree fully-funded by their employer. They all had very different approaches to their career planning and to what they prioritise in making choices and where they hope their careers will take them in the future.

Our Year 7 questions were similarly interesting and diverse; from 'how much do you earn' to 'what is the biggest hole you've ever dug', via 'which celebrities have you met', 'how did you deal with anxiety about your exams' and 'did you know what you wanted to do when you chose your GCSEs', the students really impressed our speakers with their lively engagement with the event. As they headed home at the end of a long afternoon considering their future, there was lots of chat about having a better idea about work and different jobs and opportunities. ■

UNIVERSITY FAIR

On Friday 10th June, 45 Year 12 students went on an exciting and informative trip to the UK University Search Fair at Brighton's Amex Stadium, as well as the nearby, University of Sussex campus.

The first stop was the impressive Amex Stadium, home of Brighton & Hove Albion FC. Students had free rein to explore the many universities, apprenticeship providers and recruiters exhibiting, and many returned after an hour and a half of exploring laden with prospectuses and course information. Over 60

universities were at the fair, giving our students a wide range of options. Student, Shehab, said, "the fair helped me narrow down my university choices. It was really helpful to speak to current students at different universities and find out more about what studying there would be like. I was able to speak to a student at Lancaster University who is studying the course I'm interested in, and this helped me decide that Lancaster will be one of my UCAS choices."

Next, we moved on to the University of Sussex. There we were met by

a friendly group of undergraduates keen to show our students around and answer their questions. After talks on course choice, choosing a university and university life, students were given a guided tour. Student Kiera said that 'It was great to visit a university like Sussex and hearing from the students about where they lived and what they studied helped me get a better idea of what university is actually like'.

Overall, it was a really successful day that set our Year 12 up well for some of the big decisions they will be making in the not-too-distant future. ■

DFE BOARD VISIT



Students were eager to show Department for Education board members the Academy garden and the work they have put into this year's planting.

The Department for Education is responsible for education policy across England. Board members from the department were interested to head out into schools to see policy decisions in action and to ask students and staff about their experiences of school life.

Students welcomed Tony Foot, Director, Strategic Finance, Julia Kinniburgh; Director General, Strategy Group; Andrew McCully

Director General, Schools Group, and Ian Ferguson, Non-Executive Director. They led the visitors on a tour of the Academy, popping into lesson and the Academy garden before the board members sat down with students and staff in separate Q&A sessions.

This followed Secretary of State for Education, Nadhim Zahawi's visit to the Academy back in January. ■

BOARD MEMBERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION VISITED THE ACADEMY TO SEE POLICIES IN ACTION.



The visitors were keen to hear about the students' day-to-day experiences of school.

“ Board members from the department were interested to head out into schools to see policy decisions in action... ”

LYRIC PROJECT

STUDENTS TAKE TO THE LYRIC THEATRE STAGE AS PART OF THE REACT FESTIVAL.



Our young performers teamed up with a write/director to create their dramatic performance.

The White City Theatre Company, along with industry professionals have been working with Year 8 students, delivering workshops designed to build connections and confidence since January 2022. Ten students were selected to continue the program and have been working on a self-devised performance since March 2022. The ten performers were given the theme of “connections” which started thought provoking discussions around connecting with people in real life and online. Students performed

two shows at the Lyric Theatre, alongside six other local schools as part of the ReACT Festival. Their performance really captured their individual personalities, making the performance honest and authentic, and received an outstanding response from their audience. The students have been amazing throughout the process, showing great commitment, resilience and passion to be involved in this project in weekly rehearsals and for the final performances. They should be incredibly proud of what they achieved. ■

THEATRE BOX

Turtle Key Arts brought the Theatre Box Project to Year 7 students. The project teaches the art of theatre production using a 1:25 scale model.

During three weeks of the project, students were introduced to a newly written script for which they had to design the set, costume, sound and lighting. All of which created for their theatre box.

At the conclusion of the project, students sat down to watch their own production performed. A wonderful way to introduce young people into the world of theatre. ■



Students learn about the technical elements of theatre from a small scale model.

HOLLYWOOD CALLS

FILM AND TV ACTOR, FINN COLE GAVE YEAR 10 STUDENTS AN ACTING MASTERCLASS TO HELP BOLSTER THEIR ENGLISH GCSE STUDIES.



Actor, Finn Cole spoke to students about his acting career and gave an actor's insight into GCSE set text, "An Inspector Calls".

Year 10 students have been studying *An Inspector Calls* by J. B. Priestley for their GCSE English Literature. A play about the prosperous middle-class and the society values of the time.

To aid the study of the text, the English Department arranged for a special visit from British actor, Finn Cole, who starred in BBC's adaptation of the play as the character Eric Birling.

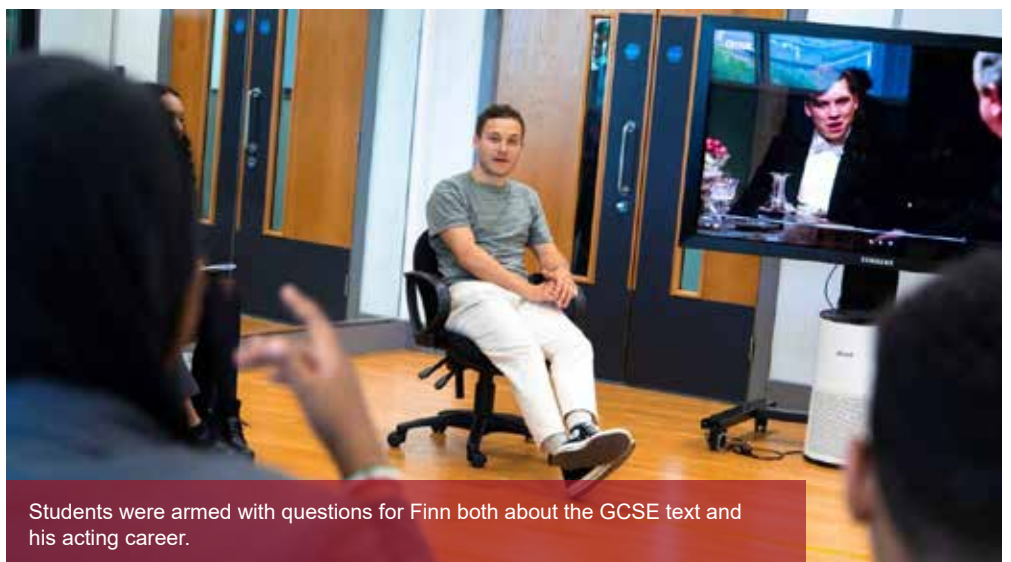
Students were treated to a masterclass workshop with Finn, who gave an in-depth explanation of the character and the play. Students enjoyed being able to ask questions about the character to someone who spent much time embodying him.

They were intrigued about the relationship between the character he played and the others in the play and asked for his take on it. Students also

wanted to know how he became the character in order to play him on screen.

After discussions about the text, student interest turned to Finn's career and how he got into acting, as well as shows and films he has starred in including *Peaky Blinders* and *Lewis*.

A huge thank you to Finn from the English Department for giving up his time to meet with our Year 10 students and for inspiring them to explore their GCSE set text with more passion and from a different viewpoint that they wouldn't have considered prior to the workshop. ■



Students were armed with questions for Finn both about the GCSE text and his acting career.

PROM TIME

YEAR 11 STUDENTS CELEBRATED THE END OF THEIR GCSE EXAMS WITH A PROM ON THE THAMES. MR FITCHETT REPORTS ON THE EVENT.



Students ran away with the evening's glamour theme as they partied on their own dedicated boat on the Thames.

“Students had the time of their lives as they passed some of London's most famous landmarks...”

The Year 11 Prom returned to the Thames this year and students pulled out all the stops to put on a glamorous show on their own exclusive boat tour.

Students had the time of their lives as they passed some of London's most famous landmarks, including Tower Bridge and Houses of Parliament.

Mr O'Hana-James deserves a special mention for his dancing skills which took everyone by surprise. Students will not be underestimating him again!

The highlight of the evening was the crowning of the Prom King and

Queen, which was voted for by fellow students. Wael was crowned Prom King and Siham as Prom Queen.

Overall it was a fitting way to celebrate their hard work and dedication, and to mark the end of the GCSE exams and their Key Stage 4 journey.

We wish them all the very best of luck as they head onto Sixth Form and the professional world. ■

Prom Royalty as voted for by students:

- Prom King - Wael
- Prom Queen - Siham

GREEN 4 GRENFELL



The 14th June marked the fifth anniversary of the Grenfell tragedy, an event which has deeply affected the local community.

This year, students have been fundraising for the Grenfell Foundation by making a donation to wear a green top and selling school made badges. As well as fundraising, students designed messages on green hearts to make a big display in the canteen. In total, £268.15 was raised for the charity. ■

CULTURAL DAY



Students in all the year groups took part in this year's Cultural Day, with some beautiful traditional cultural outfits on show.

The Academy's Cultural Day is a celebration of all the different cultures found in the Academy community and to highlight the importance of diversity.

On Friday 17th June, we celebrated Culture Day. Upon arriving, all I could see was vibrant, traditional clothing from every corner of the world. It was wonderful to see everyone expressing their culture through their clothes and pride for their unique heritages shining on their faces.

I wore a two-piece dress called a 'koti', which is traditional clothing from Bangladesh. I saw many different outfits throughout the day,

for example; thobes (type of tunic) with shemaghs (type of scarf), saris, salwar kameezes, and even a kilt.

During the day there were many activities to celebrate our cultures. In tutor time, each person stood up and spoke about their traditional dress and their culture. It was great to learn more about other people's unique traditions, and really highlighted just how diverse our HA community really is!

The whole day was filled with such a positive atmosphere, allowing us to acknowledge and share our pride for our uniqueness in a really beautiful way. ■

**STUDENTS
CELEBRATE THE
DIFFERENT CULTURES
OF THE ACADEMY
COMMUNITY. YEAR
10 STUDENT ANISHA
REPORTS ON THE DAY.**

“It was wonderful to see everyone expressing their culture through their clothes...”



Sixth Formers led the celebrations on Culture Day.

JUST EAT MATHS!



Year 10 students enjoyed discovering the maths behind Just Eat and their business model.

We were invited by the Advanced Maths Support Programme (AMSP) to a maths careers event held at the Just Eat offices on Fleet Street.

At Just Eat, the employees were very kind and welcoming upon our arrival. They provided us with snacks and coffee, as well as branded Just Eat stationery. The first activity was a quiz about numbers, highlighting how important and tightly integrated they are within the food delivery company.

It was interesting and enjoyable to see the substantial number of steps involved in a single service, as well as their worldwide reach. It was particularly surprising to see Just Eat's active involvement in real problems, such as aiding Ukraine. We learnt that numbers have such a vast impact on everything, going as far as to solve problems affecting an entire population.

Through interactive tasks, the staff at Just Eat were able to highlight the importance of the maths behind Just Eat such as the user interface on the app, the statistics behind the number of customers and their preferences. They use data from previous orders to show you restaurants that you may be interested in and to secure an order with the customer.

During the panel discussion staff answered all of our questions which really helped further our understanding of future careers in maths. The activities were fun, but also informative at the same time which kept us entertained and engaged throughout the whole day.

At the end of the activities we went on a tour of their offices. We got to experience how they spend their day at work which inspired us to want to work in an exciting environment.

They have Katy Perry and Snoop Dogg as their celebrity endorsers for the advertising campaigns, who they have pictures of on their lifts and walls. They even had a motorcycle in their offices which some of us got to sit on! There are rooms named after different foods which relate to their brand. Additionally, on the tour we got to see their games room where staff can unwind and bond with colleagues- which shows that Just Eat care about the mental health of their workers.

Overall, the trip was extremely fun and eye-opening and if we had the opportunity to go again, we would. A bonus part of the trip was that we got to use the Elizabeth line on its opening day which was very exciting!

A SELECT GROUP OF YEAR 10 STUDENTS EXPLORE MATHS CAREERS AT JUST EAT. MOHAMMED, ELYAS, AMR, RANAD, YLLKA AND ZAINAB EXPLAIN THEIR DAY AND WHAT THEY LEARNT.

“ They use data from previous orders to show you restaurants that you may be interested in and to secure an order with the customer. ”

COUNT ON US

COUNT ON US CHALLENGE IS A UNIQUE, INTER-SCHOOL MATHS TOURNAMENT FOR STUDENTS UP TO YEAR 9 ACROSS LONDON. THE TEAM REPORTS ON THE COMPETITION.



The Academy's Count On Us Maths Challenge Team travelled to the new City Hall for the competition finals alongside Mr Barrett who has been guiding students and leading practise sessions and Head of Maths, Ms Suganthakumaran.

Hammersmith Academy hosted 12 schools for the first round of the competition, and our team did so well that we then made it to the finals at City Hall. Our team- Tegan, Hannah, Shuayb, Aham and Ilhombek tell us all about the finals:

The team has been training for the competition since the start of the year and we have grown our skills and built our resilience for problem solving. Eventually we grew more and more confident until we had mastered the games, so much so we got through to the finals!

The fun started early on our journey to the Count On Us Maths Challenge final. To get to the new City Hall, we had to go on a cable car. It was exciting, though Mr Barrett was very scared.

In the finals, we had to compete against challengers from different schools through different rounds of activities. One of these is a game called 24, where you get a card with 4 numbers and you have to use subtraction, addition, multiplication and division to get to the number 24. Once you find the answer in your head, you slap the card on the table and clearly explain your method. I

was not ready for the speed of the contestants. They were so fast that they slapped each other's hands constantly, almost like a beat Mr Barrett can rap to.

The next round was Hedgehog, where the atmosphere was tense, no one spoke except for the handshake at the end of the game and saying "good game". Hedgehog is a game where you roll a dice and try to get an accumulative number of 30 however if you get a 1 or a 6 on your roll you earn 1 or 0 points for the whole of your round and must give the dice to the other team. It is a real mix of luck and strategy!

When we were first introduced to Gridlines, we just looked at it and stared, we had absolutely no idea what to do. The thought of figuring out equations with no numbers was something that had never really crossed our minds before. Eventually, however, Gridlines was a great way to increase teamwork

between us and we found new ways for including our new-found geometry skills into problems. As we progressed, we got better at all the games we were introduced to, and we had a fun time learning them as well. It has been very enjoyable training for the Count on Us Maths Challenge and part of me will miss trying to find Pythagorean triplets and angles in a shape.

Although we did not win the overall competition, it has taught us how to work around different maths challenges and problems and from this, our knowledge of maths has expanded massively, along with our teamwork. ■



Hammersmith Academy hosted the first round of the Count On Us Maths Challenge.

BIG BANG FAIR



Students explored the many exhibits and activities on offer from a large number of organisations, employers and businesses, including this NHS exhibit.

On Friday 24th June 50 excited Year 9 students from HA boarded a coach bound for the sunny Midlands. Destination; The Big Bang Fair at the NEC in Birmingham.

The Big Bang Fair is the largest celebration of STEM in the UK, created specifically for students across the country. The event is

packed full of interactive and hands on activities designed by scientists and engineers.

Students visited exhibits by household names such as the NHS, Army, RAF, National Grid, Network Rail, MAN logistics, well known sports brands and many more, demonstrating the fundamental need

for engineers in our society and the many different sectors a career in STEM provides access to.

It was an exciting day of learning and development with students describing it as, "inspiring" and helping to get them "more engaged in science". Elios found learning about the effects of radiation "both surprising and extremely useful" and went on to teach us a thing or two about the National Grid which powers electricity to England from Norway!

Rueben enjoyed the "fun activities and found learning about future careers and apprenticeships very useful" and Juan learnt 'a lot of medical stuff, especially about ventilators but in an engaging and practical way'.

After two years of no trips and limited practical activities in science, it was fantastic to observe them getting stuck in, asking lots of questions and appreciating the importance of STEM in our everyday lives. ■

MAKER CHALLENGE



Tianna was one of three Hammersmith Academy students taking part in the programme this year. The Academy has had a great track record with previous student winners.

As the Maker Challenge Programme returned to in-person sessions, our students couldn't wait to return to the workshops at Imperial's White City campus.

Imperial's Reach-Out Makerspace is a unique immersive environment provides young people with a space to experiment, design and innovate.

This Summer, Tianna (Year 10), Naeem (Year 12) & Ermir (Year

12) successfully applied for the programme, allowing them to work within a dedicated space for young people, containing tools such as 3D printers, scanners, laser cutters, woodworking equipment and more. Following a series of after-school sessions, they had the chance to develop an idea and see it through to creation and showcasing their final product.

All three impressed the Makerspace staff with their creativity and work-ethic. Tianna said, "I realised that it's not just about the end-product but instead more about the journey, the resilience you build and the experience. It was really rewarding and I know what I'd do to improve next time."

HA students have always done well on the programme, including a winner of the Maker Challenge. ■

SOUNDS OF SUMMER



The Academy's Music Department helped to devise the Sounds Like Hammersmith and Fulham Project.

HEAD OF MUSIC, MS SLAV, REPORTS ON A BUSY SUMMER TERM FOR THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT.

The Summer term saw plenty of musical opportunities for students. In May, Music Tech Club students were joined by GCSE music students to participate in a Music Tech workshop provided by The Rhythm Studio as part of the Sounds Like Hammersmith & Fulham Project. The Music Department has had the privilege of serving on the teacher's advisory panel for this project, which is the springboard for a ten-year programme of cultural development in the borough. The focus is on creating opportunity through innovative arts and cultural provision, using music as a medium.



Key Stage 3 students put on a brilliant adaptation of the Shakespearean classic on the Summer Solstice.

Additionally, the project has also organised The Big Gig Take 1, part of the Mayor's London Borough of Culture programme. The event takes place in Westfield Square in July with music industry guests and a Q&A panel. Most excitingly for us, we have two of our GCSE students performing on the day, Trixie (Year 10) and Sam (Year 11), who made it through the tough audition process to perform to a festival crowd!

In place of the Summer Showcase this year, the Performing Arts Faculty decided to go the extra mile and curate a KS3 play featuring music from Session 3 activities. A Midsummer Night's Dream was performed on the summer solstice in the Academy's garden. The predominantly Year 7 cast staged the abridged version of the play in just 2 weeks! For most of them it was their first opportunity to perform in front of an audience. They did fantastically well, even in the face of challenges that included a very sun kissed stage, a busy rehearsal schedule, and not one but two last-minute cast changes due to illness. Music was provided by Orchestra, Rock Band and Choir, which featured an original song composed by Nikita (Year 8) using Shakespeare's words for lyrics! The KS5 playground was transformed into a festival themed area. There were so many standout performances and we are incredibly excited to see these young students, progress.

The Summer Term also provided our students with other performance opportunities. Chelsea (Year 13) performed beautifully on piano for the Academy's 10 Year Anniversary event; excellent preparation for her graded exams which she later passed with flying colours.

Some of our Year 10 GCSE students performed at the historic Gresham College, for their 75th Anniversary Event of the Mercers' Scholars. Alex, Trixie, Raye and Sean performed a short recital in the mid-thirteenth century Barnard's Inn Hall to high profile guests which included Dr Wendy Piatt and Caroline Haines. They were an absolute credit to the Academy. ■

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.



Hammersmith Academy rugby players met the British Men's Rugby Team during their training session. Image courtesy of RFU / Getty Images.

Rugby students join England Men's Team training session

Hammersmith Academy students spent the day at King's House School Sports Ground where the England Men's Rugby Team were training for their upcoming tour to Australia in July.

Following the squad's training session, Head Coach, Eddie Jones

and his coaching staff put students through their paces with a training session of their own!

Thank you to the team for taking time out to meet with our students, signing autographs and providing life-long memories!

Sport Round Up

It has been an outstanding return to school sport this year for HA! In the

Basketball season, there were plenty of positives in what was a successful season for all year groups. Year 11 finished the season with a 100% record, including two high scoring games against Fulham Boys with Abdellah and Sean ever-present for HA. The Year 9/10 team continued to develop this season, with notable wins against Phoenix, Burlington Danes Academy and Fulham Boys. Musa set the school record for most points scored in a single game, finishing with 28 against Fulham. Within the London Youth Games, the Year 9 were drawn against The American School of London (ASL) in the knockout stages, with ASL winning 73-22.

In football this year, Year 10 had an excellent season with a record of 6 wins, 1 draw and 1 loss. Ahead of re-entering the QPR league next season, it was important for the boys to gain valuable experience. This was evident in the opening game of the season against BDA, when, trailing 2-0 at half-time, staged the greatest of comebacks to run out eventual winners 5-4 courtesy of a Xavier brace. In the 89th and 93rd minute proving to be instrumental in developing a never-give-up attitude. This was



Year 10 Boys' Football Team enjoyed a great season, including a 7-1 victory against BDA.



England's Head Coach, Eddie Jones, gave a personal training session to Hammersmith Academy students after watching the men's squad train.

mirrored in the final game of the season against Fulham Cross, with Kavar scoring a last minute equaliser from 20 yards, sparking mass celebrations from the boys! Overall, it has been a true pleasure watching this team develop, with honourable mentions to debutants Juwon, Suhaib, Harry, Omar, Kai-Leung, Samuel and Abdelbasset all stepping up this season.

Although it is hugely disappointing that we didn't have the chance to complete Sports Day this year due to the weather, the first field day after two years was a huge success, with the following students breaking school records dating back to 2013;

- Year 7 Boys High Jump: Kyrese (7A) - 1.48m
- Year 7 Girls High Jump: Sophie (7K) - 1.24m
- Year 8 Boys Javelin: David (8K) - 24.34m
- Year 9 Boys Long Jump: Haytham R (9L) - 5.34m
- Year 9 Girls Javelin: Tegan (9J) - 15.80m
- Year 10 Boys High Jump: Kavar (10J) and Sean (10A) - 1.64m. ■

Follow Sports on Instagram

@hasport1

Sportswoman of the Term

Georgia has had a superb year in PE and always participates fully with great motivation and determination. She represented her House in the Sports Day in the Long Jump where she came second with a jump of 3m 33cm. She then followed this up by representing her House in the Race for Life elite race, where she won the race comfortably.

Outside of school Georgia has been rowing at Fulham Reach Boat Club, training four times a week and racing at weekends. She was selected from a very competitive training squad to compete in 2 national level regattas with her crew. Georgia competed in the National Schools' Regatta – this is the UK's premiere rowing event for junior rowers and attracted 5,000 competitors over the course of the competition. She also raced at the Junior Sculling Head at Eton Dorney.

Well done Georgia! ■



Sportsman of the Term

Kavar has had an outstanding year in PE. As well as breaking the Year 10 High Jump record with a height of 1.64m at Sports Day.

He has been ever-present in the Year 10 Football Team, in a hugely successful season, with the Year 10 finishing with a record of 6 wins in 8 games. Kavar has played a pivotal role in this, making contributions in big moments in games, notching 5 goals in 8 games. This was evident from the very first game against BDA, where he was a constant threat in our attack whilst also ensuring he completed his defensive duties in the midfield.

Furthermore, Kavar has won this award because of his attitude, proving to be a role model to his peers and encouraging others to not give up in any situation. ■



Hammersmith Academy

25 Cathnor Road, London W12 9JD

T: 020 8222 6000

E: info@hammersmithacademy.org

W: hammersmithacademy.org

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