

.....
December 2017
.....

Autumn Term
Issue 21
.....

academy newsletter



.....
A very warm welcome to our first newsletter of this academic year. Once again, the following pages are crammed with a phenomenal range of activities, visits and achievements that have happened since the term started in September.

It has been a pleasure to welcome our new Year 7 cohort, who seem to have quickly settled in and to be enjoying their experience in the Academy. Yet again we are oversubscribed, with far more applicants than for whom we have places; we are now full and have a waiting list in most year groups. It is reassuring to know that so many pupils and their parents, both locally and further afield, are choosing Skinner's Academy.

At the start of the year we also welcomed a number of new members of staff. They have established themselves quickly, and are making an extremely valuable contribution to the life of the Academy. As I said

at prize giving in November, our members of staff are the Academy's greatest asset and I thank them all for their continued commitment to fulfilling the vision of the Academy and to enabling every pupil to, 'Be the best you can'.

Over the past few weeks, pupils in Year 11 and students in Year 13 have been sitting their mock examinations. When we return after the Christmas holidays, there are only about 14 school weeks before the start of the formal GCSE and A-Level exams. I sincerely hope that everyone in Year 11 and 13 will do all they can to ensure they get the very best results in these crucial, life-changing exams. The very best of luck to everyone.

As always, the end of term has been hectic with the Christmas concert, Christmas lunch, carol service, staff panto etc. Despite all the hard work, I hope everyone can enjoy a happy and enjoyable end of term.

A very Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to you all.

Tim Clark,
Principal







Soul of a Nation

The show opens in 1963 at the height of the Civil Rights movement and its dreams of integration. In its wake emerged more militant calls for Black Power: a rallying cry for African American pride, autonomy and solidarity, drawing inspiration from newly independent African nations. Artists responded to these times by provoking, confronting, and confounding expectations. Their momentum makes for an electrifying visual journey. Vibrant paintings, powerful murals, collage, photography, revolutionary clothing designs and sculptures made with Black hair, melted records, and tights – the variety of artworks reflects the many viewpoints of artists and collectives at work during these explosive times.

Some engage with legendary figures from the period, with paintings in homage to political leaders Martin Luther King, Malcolm X and Angela Davis, musician John Coltrane and sporting hero Jack Johnson. Muhammad Ali appears in Andy Warhol's famous painting.

This landmark exhibition is a rare opportunity to see era-defining artworks that changed the face of art in America. (www.tate.org.uk)

Ambassadors' visit to Tate Modern

In October, Year 7 and Year 8 ambassadors visited the Tate Modern to view the thought provoking Soul of a Nation exhibit. The exhibit showcased many pieces that belong to a range of famous and influential people including Spike Lee the acclaimed American film director, producer, writer, and actor.

Mr Alexis, HOY11/Teacher of Computing



Year 8 Drop Down

On 6 December, Year 8 were involved in a Drop Down Day focused on the theme of Identity and Activism. Pupils began the day with understanding their own identities and then used the example of Mayor Mockus of Bogotá as inspiration to explore how they could make a difference in their community. We moved onto an in depth study of key figures including Martin Luther King, Darcus Howe, Malcolm X and Mahatma Gandhi, who used their activism to fight for a better world.

Pupils ended the day, taking inspiration from Michelle Obama, by creating their own protest placards as a springboard for their own ideas to create a better world.

Ms Bell, HOY8/Teacher of History

Prize Giving 2016-2017



Prize Giving Celebrations

On 2 November, Skinners' Academy held our annual Prize Giving ceremony, a celebration of the wide-ranging achievements of our pupils from the 2016-2017 academic year. Prizes were presented by the Master of The Skinners' Company, Mrs Annabelle Baird, and recognised pupils' progress within a particular subject, musical and sporting excellence, as well as SSOGA prizes for academic achievement and services to the Academy.

The evening included performances from the our accomplished Year 8 steel band, school choir and a selection of musical pieces performed by three Saz (Turkish Long Neck Lute) players from Year 7. Abged Siddig, Year 10, who was recently awarded the 'Mayor's Individual Pupil Award for Musical Achievement' at the annual Hackney Music Service Gala, also treated us to a spectacular solo piano performance. Special thanks to Ms Adediran for the wonderful arrangement.

Subject Prizes Year 7	
English	Tyler Iteku
Mathematics	Zafar Shohid
Science	Sabarina Ali
Art & Design	Josef Pyecroft
Computing	Favour Adebisi
Design & Technology	Karen Castro-Bravo
Drama	Nayana Yakub
Geography	Daniel Taiwo
History	Jessica Oliveira Santos
Music	Mariah Foot-Wynter
Physical Education	Floriane Ungudi
Religious Studies	Javier Mothersille
Spanish	Oliwia Fikiel

Subject Prizes Year 8	
English	Summer Lee
Mathematics	Huzaifa Sooklall
Science	Yilmaz Koku
Art & Design	Amy Carroll
Computing	Hisham Ramjaun
Design & Technology	Adedotun Ojedele-Adewale
Drama	Joyce Amisi
French	Neelam Kaur
Geography	Eren Cinar
History	Aisha Amin
Music	Sukhbir Singh
Physical Education	Nacime Belkadi
Religious Studies	Jasira Islam
Spanish	Ruhat Yildiz

Year 7 Sports Person of the Year	
Sabrina Brightly	Daniel Taiwo

Year 8 Sports Person of the Year	
Rachel Asare	Jamal Adam

Year 7 Musician of the Year
Josef Pyecroft - Highest mark for Grade 3 Violin

Year 8 Musician of the Year
Nisa Akdag - Highest mark for Grade 1 Viola

Year 7 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Rimshah Akhtar	Josh Moses

Year 8 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Esther Taiwo	Tate Palin

Year 7 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Hafsa Amla	Oliwier Sterner

Year 8 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Chi Wong	Basheru Sundifu

Subject Prizes Year 9	
English	Rafiat Olaide
Mathematics	Amelia Mazurek
Core Science	Hazel Karakuzu
Biology	Mohammed Abubakar
Chemistry	Summer Gayle
Physics	Kevin Rzazada
Art & Design	Aleksandra Marchewka
Business Studies	Azizah Miah
Computing	Zack Fowler
Creative iMedia	Telmo Cangoma
Drama	Maria Benitez-Arboleda
Economics	Godiva Chukwu
Food Technology	Ali Bhula
French	Marissa Armaah
Geography	Hakeem Doherty
Health & Social Care	Lourdes Saiona
History	Sumaiya Rahman
Media Studies	Mateusz Oleksinski
Music	Chipaka Henry
Physical Education	Mariangeles Espejo Jimenez
Religious Studies	Roshni Kaur
Resistant Materials	Deniz Tutar
Spanish	Zakir Hussain
Textiles	Francesca Taylor
Travel & Tourism	Cagla Incedal

Year 9 Sports Person of the Year	
Julia Heinrich	Lloyd Aboagye-Kumi

Year 9 Musician of the Year	
Abged Siddig - Highest mark for Grade 2 Flute	

Year 9 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Berfin Koz	Khadar Hassan

Year 9 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Kehinde Shomuyiwa	Abged Siddig



Subject Prizes Year 10	
English	Irem Orhan
Mathematics	Louisiana Kindo
Core Science	Klaudia Wrazen
Biology	Shemul Ahmed Hossain
Chemistry	Joab Alban Salgado
Physics	Zubaid Amadkarif
Art & Design	Jane Pestana Resende
Business Studies	Shania Strachan
Computing	Roda Cetin
Drama	Jesse Asiedu Buoh
Food Technology	Meher Kazmi
French	Kyce Grant
Geography	Tushig Baygal
Health & Social Care	Nuzha Habib
History	Aasha Hussain
Music	Lucas Wingrove
Physical Education	Erdem Akinci
Religious Studies	Yusra Shohid
Resistant Materials	Berkan Ereger
Spanish	Sara Lemos
Travel & Tourism	Yen Phang

Year 10 Sports Person of the Year	
Erin Opata	Lucas Wingrove

Year 10 Musician of the Year	
Briana Williams - Highest GCSE solo performance grade	

Year 10 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Gabrielle Collins Saravia	Deniz Koku

Year 10 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Briana Williams	Yaw Opoku



Subject Prizes Year 11	
English	Dylan Ball
Mathematics	Adil Hussain
Core Science	Zakiya Mahmud
Biology	Evangeline Appiah-Nuamah
Chemistry	Onay Koc
Physics	Rushawn Powell
Art & Design	Gokcen Sevim
Business Studies	Zack Dowding
Computing	Joseph Merino Barros
Creative iMedia	Kevin Stirling
Drama	Caitlin Lovick
Food Technology	Abu Shohid
French	Maurice Diallo
Geography	Pavandeep Kaur
Health & Social Care	Ozge Parin
History	Luke McConville
Music	Isabella Cano
Physical Education	Benjamin Kalanyos
Religious Studies	Eda Apat
Resistant Materials	Afzal Hussain
Spanish	Khadija Abumaye
Textiles	Samira Abuu
Travel & Tourism	Zaher Khan

Year 11 Sports Person of the Year	
Rose Pepperday	Ishmael Charles

Year 11 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Molly Greaney	Tanvir Mohammed Hossain

Year 11 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Dalya El Ghorri	Henry Vu



Subject Prizes Year 12	
English	Ezgi Kahraman
Mathematics	Berfin Burunlu
Biology	Hanan Guthmy
Chemistry	Judith Appiah-Nuamah
Physics	Oliver Betteridge
Art & Design	Shequille Mandiangu
Business Studies	Rayyan Bawazir
Business Studies BTEC	Kevin Heredia-Arango
Geography	Inan Sakar
Health & Social Care	Melissa Sanderson
Media Studies	Natalia Kosmala
Psychology	Berry Saunders
Resistant Materials	Michal Lisz
Sociology	Rachel Ajayi
Spanish	Miguel Chamorro

Year 12 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Yasemin Kelimet	Kamran Rzazada

Year 12 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Magdalena Maciejewska	Gokay Emre

Subject Prizes Year 13	
English	Wassim Malik
Biology	Jaden Hope
Chemistry	Michael Morris
Art & Design	Cynye Wong
Business Studies	Michael Odetola
Business Studies BTEC	Denzel Asiedu-Bouh
Computer Science	Kelell Davison-Thomas
Drama & Theatre Studies	Sirin Gultekin
Economics	Anwer Siddig
Geography	Liam Creary-Bennett
History	Esin Akdogan
Media Studies	Yolanta Connolly-Muzyczka
Physical Education	Ronnie O'Connor
Psychology	Daniella Cano
Sociology	Sumea Abuu
Spanish	Nikolas Teran-Vaca
Textiles	Ilayda Tuncel

Year 13 SSOGA Prize for Overall Academic Achievement throughout the year	
Tracy Tran	Vijay Singh

Year 13 SSOGA Prize for Services to the Academy throughout the year	
Connacht Sheffield	Brando Williams

Sixth Form

Destinations - 2017

Skinners' Academy's new Sixth Form celebrated tremendous success with our first cohort of 48 students receiving 100% A*-E in 17 of the 20 subjects undertaken, and above 75% A*-E for the remaining three subjects.

96% of students who applied to university received a place including one student, Esin Akdogan, gaining a place at Oxford University and seven students accepted into a Russell Group University.



Brunel University London	Brando Williams : Mathematics Illayda Tuncel : International Politics Wassim Malik : Psychology
City, University of London	Larissa Dang : Accounting & Finance Melisa Akcadag : International Politics Sirin Gultekin : Criminology
Coventry University	Liam Creary-Bennett : Business & Finance
Goldsmiths, University of London	Sumea Abuu : Sociology with Criminology
Kingston University	Tomiwa Akingbade : Media & Communication
Leuphana University of Lüneburg (Germany)	Polina Halabitska : Media Studies
Liverpool John Moores University	Milo Seaman : Film Studies
London Metropolitan	Serdar Karakus : Computer Network Engineering
Middlesex University	Anwer Siddig : Law Conrad Bernard : Business Management Dahyim Karim : Accounting & Finance Nikolas Teran-Vaca : International Business Vijay Singh : Business Management
Oxford University	Esin Akdogan : History
Queen Mary University of London	Danilson Malungu : Marketing & Management Tabassum Nusibhya : Comparative Literature
University of Bradford	Tolu Adisa : Clinical Sciences/Medicine
University of Essex	Nakasha Morton-Pindling : Accounting & Finance
University of West London	Nasra Bana : Health Promotion & Public Health
UCL (University College London)	Selin Kудay : Information Management for Business Tracy Tran : Psychology
University of Brighton	Adam Akinlade : Geography Dogukan Han : Finance & Investment
University of East Anglia (UEA)	Jaden Hope : Pharmacy Yolanta Connolly-Muzyczka : English Literature
University of Hertfordshire	Ammandeep Kaur : Business & Human Resources Daniella Cano : Criminal Justice & Criminology Jaswinder Kaur : Business & Human Resources Leon Mabiala : Marketing & Advertising Mohammed Bham : Business Management
University of Leeds	Kelell Davison-Thomas : Computer Science
University of Leicester	Michael Morris : Biological Sciences Michael Odetola : Accounting & Finance Tosin Ajibade : Management Studies & Economics
University of Northampton	Leah Lawrence : Psychology Semmae Fenton : Health & Social Care
University of Portsmouth	Melisa Atim : Criminology & Criminal Justice
University of Southampton	Denzel Asiedu-Bouh : Business Analytics Rebecca Greaney : Population & Geography
University of Sussex	Connacht Sheffield : Mechanical Engineering
York University (Canada)	Ronnie O'Connor : Sports Science

City University Visit

A group of Year 12 students enjoyed a busy day exploring the City, University of London campus. The tour illustrated the campus' exceptional facilities, which included the canteen, gym, labs, lecture theatres, ICT facilities and 24 hour library. City's student ambassadors who are studying a range of subjects including Radiology, Law, Accounting, Archaeology and English led the tour. They shared their personal experiences with our Year 12's including how to be accepted to study the course of their choice.

Throughout the day, Year 12 also took part in various sessions including 'writing and editing a personal statement', 'how to choose a university' and 'how to research different course options'.

The Year 12 students were really impressed by the campus facilities and described the visit as "exceptionally helpful". They now have an idea of what a university could feel like and look like, so when they begin the process of selecting their own university destinations they have good grounds for comparison and can make an informed decision.

Ms Syme, Head of Sixth Form/Teacher of Geography



Enterprise



“”

Pupils in the UK are full of brilliant ideas but don't always have the confidence to bring them to fruition. Mosaic's Enterprise Challenge helps them believe that anything is possible.

Team iRoundUp

'iRoundUp' raises over £42,000 for charity

Our 2015 Enterprise Challenge winners have raised more than £42,000 for charity with their competition winning innovative business idea, iRoundUp.

Two years ago, team iRoundUp which includes current Year 13 student Agnieszka Rudnik and former pupils Mark Daniel, Matthew Daniel, Daise Spiteri and Elif Sucu, were the national grand final winners of the Mosaic Enterprise Challenge competition. Their idea was a simple one – where pupils and parents can volunteer to donate spare change to a nominated charity from the electronic currency stored on their ParentPay accounts.

With the support of Mosaic, ParentPay and Hogan Lovells International LLP, since winning the competition iRoundUp has been rolled out across ParentPay's entire UK platform, becoming available to approximately 2 million parents. The scheme has been an instant success, raising £42,000. The funds were donated to the nationally chosen Wallace & Gromit's Children's charity, who aim to improve the lives of children in hospitals throughout the UK.

In 2017 a new team from Skinners' Academy, team YouTe@ch, were announced as the newest champions of the Mosaic Enterprise Challenge. Skinners' Academy are the first school in the competition's 10-year history to ever win the competition twice. Well done all.

Ms Dalia, Communications/Enterprise Coordinator

Careers

Careers, Work Experience & Progression Fair 2017

Held on 17 October, this year's careers fair for Years 10-13 was designed to be an inspirational hub for pupils thinking about their future. For those who took full advantage of the event it served as a useful part of the discovery process when it comes to figuring out what sort of career and lifestyle they want to create for themselves and more importantly, what potential steps they can take to get there.

This year's theme was 'Attitude is Everything' and created a space for pupils to:

- Remember the importance of a can-do attitude
- Directly build their network
- Connect with employers who may provide work experience opportunities
- Increase knowledge about a range of careers areas
- Raise confidence and clarity when thinking about post-16 and post-18 next steps (and beyond)
- Participate in dynamic panel discussions on where to find out more about what they can do to make the most of their future such as "Turning creativity into a career", "Work experience: Secure and succeed in your next opportunity" and more.
- Highlight reasons to be positive regarding higher education and career planning - taking advantage of opportunities we provide as an Academy while also making their own

Organisations involved included; Allen & Overy, Berkeley Homes, CBRE, Deakin & Blue, Dentons, Education & Employers Taskforce, EY, Great Ormond Street Hospital, Hackney Council, Hackney Empire, Hackney Pirates, London Market Group, M&G, Peabody, Prospects, Rivington Street Studio and Springboard UK

Education and training providers included; Arts University Bournemouth, Aston University, Cambridge University (Clare College), Canterbury Christ Church University, Coventry University, Kings' College London, London School of Economics, Middlesex University, Queen Mary University of London, University College London, University of Bristol, University of Exeter, University of Hertfordshire, University of Leicester, University of Portsmouth, University of Southampton, University of Westminster, Leyton Orient Trust and QA

Special thanks also go to Ritu Vohora, Investment Director from M&G, and Dr Ronke Ikharia – Homerton University Hospital.

Two thirds of the pupils who responded to the survey said they came across a job or career path that is interesting and worth exploring further, and nine in 10 said the fair was useful in terms of increasing knowledge and direct access to professionals in a range of industries.

Ms Visram, Comms & Marketing Manager/Careers Development Coordinator

“”

We were supplied with a large amount of information about how to prepare during A-levels and how to access specified course/s at university.

Year 12 Student

“”

This careers fair was really helpful. The doctor who came to speak to us and help us with work experience, was the highlight of the event for me. She truly is inspirational!

Year 11 Pupil



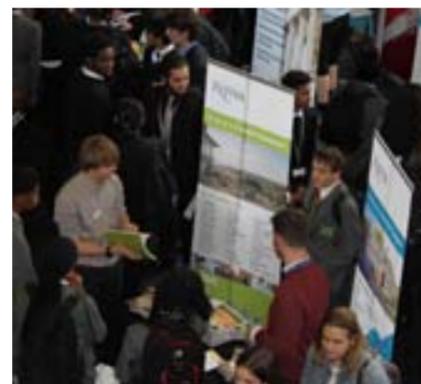
“”

It was nice being able to talk to everyone with jobs who made it through 'real life'.

The visitors taking part in the panel discussions were very informative and I enjoyed listening to them. The topics covered were really great and to be honest I don't think you could have made it any better.

I'm a little worried about the future like anyone, but this day helped clear my mind a bit. Thank you.

Year 10 Pupil



“”

We were pleased to provide this opportunity for our Year 10-13 students and are incredibly grateful to the individuals, businesses and education providers who participated in this year's event.

We're also proud that of those organisations surveyed after the event 100% said they would be interested in participating in this or other careers events here in the future, and all agreed that they would recommend to colleagues and friends that working with Skinners' Academy pupils would be a positive experience.

Our Careers Fair at Skinners' Academy highlights our unwavering commitment to excellent careers, education, information advice and guidance (CEIAG) for our pupils – and is a valuable part of our careers programme.

Mr Clark, Principal of Skinners' Academy



Wales

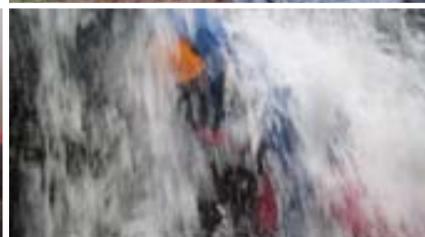
What a welcome for our new Year 7s

This year's annual visit to Wales was a triumphant success. Over a two-week period, we saw over 120 Year 7 pupils visit the 'Hampshire & Cass Foundation Mountain Centre' where they experienced all that the Welsh countryside has to offer. They took part in various activities including mountain walking, waterfall trekking and caving, all the while taking in the wonderful sights of South Wales, Brecon.

Not only was this a highly energetic, active and educational trip, this was also a chance for wonderful friendships to blossom, new friendships to be made, and a lot of self-learning. Pupils pushed their limits, grew in leadership, conquered their fears and achieved things they never expected to. The staff accompanying were able to get to know pupils better and aid them in their journey of becoming young adults, gaining independence and a sense of responsibility. Pupils were rewarded for being courageous, using initiative, showing compassion and displaying teamwork.

The Academy and all the staff who attended were extremely proud of how all the Year 7 pupils conducted themselves and what they achieved. Well done to all, and a huge thank you to the staff at the Hampshire and Cass Foundation Mountain Centre who were all superb.

Ms Hua, Teacher of Sociology & Psychology/AHOY7



Modern Foreign Languages (MFL)

Trip to Paris, France

In the 2016-2017 Summer Term, pupils from Year 8 to Year 12 embarked on a cultural trip to the capital of France, Paris.

We arrived on Day one via the Eurostar and could not wait to begin sightseeing. We visited various sights, including the Trocadéro Gardens and the Eiffel Tower where we saw fantastic views of the city.

Day two started with a traditional French breakfast at the hotel before we ventured on to a guided tour of Notre Dame and walked the famous old fashioned streets of The Old Town. We ended the day with a river cruise along the Seine.

We toured the Montmartre area on day three, which boasted a cobbled square lined by cafés, street artists, the Place du Tertre and the Basilica of Sacre-Coeur. We later visited the Louvre, where we saw the world-famous Mona Lisa.

Our final day was spent browsing the local market to sample the tastes and smells of France and gave us the opportunity to buy some souvenirs before we began our journey back home to London.

Ms Garcia Barker,
Teacher of MFL/AHOY10



““

The trip to Paris was an incredible experience. It was a great opportunity for me and I learned a lot from it.

Megan Quintero-Guthrie, Year 11



““

It was an amazing experience that I will never forget. I loved Paris!

Ana Cubillos, Year 11



““

I really enjoyed the trip to Paris and I would love to go again.

Aishah Busari, Year 11



Trip to Salamanca, Spain

In October, 25 pupils from Years 9-13 embarked on a Spanish home stay visit to attend school in the city of Salamanca. The visit was a great way to practice their Spanish, experience the culture, and learn the Spanish family way of life. It was a brilliant experience for the pupils, and the itinerary was packed with educational, cultural and fun activities.

Pupils were given exceptional cultural opportunities. Their host families knew very little (if any) English, so pupils had little choice but to speak the language - a fully immersive Spanish learning experience. They had the opportunity to listen and absorb the rhythm of the language and the accent, and even learned the common phrases used in Spain.

Pupils got to experience what daily life was like; the culture, and the simple things, such as meal times, which are very different in Spain and hence required pupils to adapt as part of their experience.

In addition to the experience with their host families, each day pupils attended a Spanish school, 'Don Quijote Academy', for three hours in the morning and spent the afternoon visiting various tourist attractions.

The whole journey and experience for the pupils was incredible.

Ms Smith, Head of MFL

“”

I had a good time in Spain and learned a lot in the Spanish lessons.

I'm a native speaker, but never knew there were so many grammar rules in Spanish

Angel Llamuca Sanango, Year 10



Day One

- Arrived in Madrid airport where we visited some of the cultural sights of Madrid. It was warm, sunny and the pupils enjoyed the rich Spanish atmosphere.
- Began our journey to Salamanca where for the first time pupils got to meet their Spanish families and tour the city.

“”

The trip was a remarkable experience and it gave me a taste of the different culture and the inside of the daily life of Spanish families. It felt great being part of another society.

Anaís Aria Galan, Year 12



Day Two

- First day at the Don Quijote Academy, where pupils were put in small groups and enjoyed intensive Spanish lessons.
- In the afternoon, we visited the Museo de Art Nouveau y Art Deco, which included a stunning collection of art deco themed sculptures and paintings. There were exhibits of Lalique glass, toys by Steiff (inventor of the teddy bear), Limoges porcelain, Fabergé watches, fabulous bronze and marble figurines, and a vast collection of 19th-century children's dolls (some strangely macabre) which the pupils loved.



“”

It was an amazing experience. I really loved Salamanca. My favourite part of the trip was the Tapas tour and cooking a Paella.

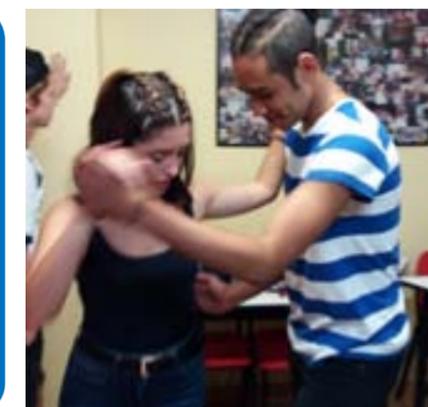
Kevin Rzazada, Year 10

Day Four & Five

- After our final day at school, the Don Quijote put on an extravaganza cooking session. The pupils were tasked with creating their own paella by following the instructions that were being read out in Spanish. It was a great experience and all pupils had lots of fun.
- At the end of the day, we had a well deserved supper to say goodbye to the Don Quijote teachers and sum up the fantastic trip.
- On our way home, we could not miss the opportunity to head into Madrid and visit El Puerto del Sol for some lunch.
- We visited the Bernabeu football stadium where pupils had the opportunity to buy a Real Madrid shirt and souvenirs. Again, a great experience.

Day Three

- After our daily Spanish lessons, we attended the central market where you can find the freshest regional produce. It was a truly authentic local market with the best quality meats, fresh live fish, fresh fruit, bread and pastries.
- In the evening, our partner school (Don Quijote) hosted a Tapas tour for us. Salamanca is famous for its tapas culture - this was one of our highlights. We went to three of the most famous tapas houses in Salamanca, one of which was a favourite of Napoleon Bonaparte, who used to visit with his horse! We were all served with many different types of Spanish specialities, what more could we ask for!



Zipe y Zape y el Club de la Canica

As part of the Into Film Festival that took place between 8-24 November, the Academy was offered free cinema tickets to see the Spanish film 'Zipe y Zape y el Club de la Canica'. A group of 28 Year 9 pupils studying GCSE Spanish were invited to see the film at The Barbican Centre to support their learning.

The Into Film Festival is a free, nationwide celebration of film and education contributing to 5-19 year olds' cultural and creative education. The adventure film is based on a popular Spanish comic strip that is charming, inventive and witty.

Ms Garcia Barker,
Teacher of MFL/AHOY10

“”

Into Film was a brilliant trip. The movie, which contained a magnificent adventure, really helped me with my Spanish speaking skills.

Beysim Beysim, Year 9

Music



“”

Just wanted to say how excited I am that our Music Department was awarded the Ensemble Development Award!

The whole team here are delighted to have had their hard work and their pupils' progress recognised by this award.

Ms Adediran, Head of Music

Hackney Music Award

The music department are excited to announce that we were awarded two Mayor's Music Awards at the 2017 Hackney Music Service Gala!

The Mayor's Music Award (MMA), is a fund, established by the Mayor of Hackney, to celebrate and support the borough's most promising musicians and to recognise the quality of the music education offered in Hackney's schools.

We received the 'Ensemble Development Award' for tripling the ensemble provision at Skinners' Academy. This was primarily achieved due to our Year 7 Instrumental Project, which gives the entire cohort the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular instrumental lessons and ensembles for free, as well as various ensemble groups from Year 8 – Year 13. The winning prize fund will go towards the purchase of a new and wider range of instruments including ¾ Double Basses, Tubas and French Horns, further developing the music provision at Skinners' Academy.

The MMA also recognises individual pupil success. Our musically gifted piano player Abged Siddig, Year 10, received the Mayor's 'Pupil Award for Musical Achievement' and secured a prize fund of £1000 which will go towards additional piano tuition for the next two years, furthering his talent.

Ms Clare, Performing Arts TA & Ms Dalia, Communications/Enterprise Coordinator

The highly anticipated fourth Academy production is 'We Will Rock You', a futuristic musical based around the songs of Queen. The cast and band have been working tirelessly to prepare for what is shaping up to be a fantastic show.

If any pupils are interested in helping back stage, please sign up with Ms Quince.

If any parent/carer wishes to get involved in supporting the production, please email Ms Quince at rquince@skinnersacademy.org.uk

To find out what night's the performance will be staged and how to get tickets, please turn to the back page of this newsletter for the production poster.

“”

I can't believe I won, I was not expecting it. I am really looking forward to developing my piano skills and learning to play even more intricate pieces of music. Thank you to Ms Adediran and the entire music department at Skinners' Academy for all their support.

Abged Siddig, Year 10

Music Café

Starting this year, The Music Café will show another side of Skinners' Academy music through rock 'n' pop performances in a relaxed atmosphere.

This is a chance to see some of the best performances from bands, singers, and songwriters from across the Academy.

Our Big Band also debuted at the Music Café on Friday 15 December.

Mr Hansom, Teacher of Music



Instrumental Choosing Day

All Year 7 pupils have a rare opportunity to learn how to play an instrument - for free! As part of the Year 7 Instrumental Project, pupils get one lesson per week on their chosen instrument, plus an hour of ensemble rehearsal. The project has seen a huge increase in pupils continuing instruments into Year 8 and beyond.

This year, there was the option of picking Music Tech, which proved very popular on Instrumental Choosing Day. Pupils learning Music Tech use software called GarageBand to compose original songs. As a starting point, they can use pre-made tunes or sections of music called 'loops', which they assemble themselves to make a song. As they progress and get better at using the software, they will be able to start making music from scratch!

Ms Clare, Performing Arts TA

Class Concerts

The class concerts this term were an opportunity for our pupils' families to see and hear what Skinners' Academy's young musicians have been working on in their instrumental lessons since September. The concerts were a huge success with lots of friends and family coming to see the pupils' work. Music Tech pupils enjoyed a slightly different class concert, where families were invited into a music classroom to see where the pupils work and hear some of their sequenced music for the first time.

Ms Adediran, Head of Music

“”

I was nervous for our class concert, I wasn't sure what people would think. But a lot of people liked it. I was proud – and so were my parents.

Jaquan Byrue, Year 7

Christmas Concert

Our annual Christmas Concert took place on 14 December and was the first concert of this academic year. Pupils across the Academy shared their hard work with friends and family. Check the Academy website for photos of the event. www.skinnersacademy.org.uk

If you missed the Christmas Concert do not fret, our Spring Concert will be taking place on Thursday 22 March from 6.30pm – 8.45pm, so please come along and show your support – Tickets are free!

Ms Adediran, Head of Music



Drama



Jesus Christ Superstar

On 14 September, the drama department took a group of Year 9 GCSE drama pupils and a couple of members from the drama club to enjoy a once in a lifetime opportunity to see 'Jesus Christ Superstar' performed at its original home, Regent's Park Open Air Theatre.

We came prepared for a downpour – but luckily, it was mostly clear skies for this atmospheric musical masterpiece!

Ms Clare, Performing Arts TA

Barbican Box Project

Year 9 GCSE drama pupils will be taking part in the 'Barbican Box Project' this year.

This project offers a unique opportunity for pupils to prepare an original piece of drama from a box of mystery objects. At the end of the project, they will perform their piece on the Barbican stage! The Tamasha Theatre Company has curated this year's box.

We have started work on this project and have had our first workshop with Yolanda Mercy. Yolanda is a London based Actor and Playwright who was named Artist to Watch 2017 by the British Council and whose five-star productions have been described as "relatable, funny and very honest".

The Year 9s will be performing on the Barbican stage in March, watch this space.

Ms Quince, Head of Drama



“”

I really enjoyed the dancing and the music in Jesus Christ Superstar. Amazing trip, couldn't have asked for more. My favourite part was the glitter. I hope for more amazing trips.

Princess Akosah, Year 9

“”

I found the outside theatre interesting and unique.

Chase Horley, Year 9

Underwater Love

Futures Theatre were welcomed to the Academy to deliver an in-school performance of their show 'Underwater Love'; a piece of theatre made to explore issues around relationships and technology. The performance was followed by a unique workshop where a few brave pupils took to the stage in place of a character to show how they would have changed the way that character reacted to certain situations.

Ms Quince, Head of Drama



Wicked

To kick-start the Year 7 pupils' drama experience at Skinners' Academy, the drama department took 30 eager Year 7s to see 'Wicked' at the Victoria Apollo Theatre. For some, this was their first time visiting a theatre; others had already seen the show more than once but were excited to experience it again and 'defy gravity' alongside their peers.

Ms Clare, Performing Arts TA



The Old Vic at 200

For the fourth year running, Skinners' Academy have successfully gained a place on the Old Vic Theatre's Schools Club. We are thrilled to be able to take 30 GCSE drama pupils to see four spectacular performances at the Old Vic over the coming year.

On 25 September, our first performance as part of this scheme was 'Girl from the North Country' and included a pre-show workshop for our pupils. Hailed as 'an instant classic' by The Times, award-winning playwright Conor McPherson beautifully weaved the iconic songbook of Bob Dylan into this show full of hope, heartbreak and soul.

The next show we saw was 'A Christmas Carol' on 4 December which gave us the opportunity to embrace the Christmas spirit.

We have built a great relationship with the Old Vic over the years, so much so that we've been asked to participate in the celebration of The Old Vic at 200. Check out Ms Quince's article at www.oldvictheatre.com/200

Ms Clare, Performing Arts TA

“”

I liked the witch's costume and that although she was green, Glinda still made friends with her.

Pepe Saez Brown, Year 7

Pride & Prejudice – Into Film

As part of the Into Film festival, we were invited to a screening of the 2005 version of 'Pride & Prejudice' at the Victoria & Albert (V&A) Museum. After the screening, our Year 9 and 10 pupils were treated to a Q&A session from some of the film's costume designers and even got to try on some of the outfits and see a costume worn by Dame Judi Dench up close!

Ms Clare, Performing Arts TA



“”

The Into Film trip allowed me to discover the wide range of careers available within drama & theatre.

Berfin Koz, Year 10

Art & Design

Christmas Card Comp

Congratulations to Molly Greaney (Year 12) for winning our annual Christmas Card Competition. Her Red Robin design will be professionally printed for the Academy's official Skinners' Christmas card, which will be sent to all staff, governors and friends of Skinners'.

A special mention to Gaby Marin Londono, Year 8, for coming in at second place with her crocheted tree design which will appear on the back of the card, and Yilmaz Koku, Vedika Sandeep and Rojda Terbas for receiving joint third place. Well done to all who submitted designs.

Ms Biggs, Teacher of Art & Design/
EAL Teacher



West Reservoir Art Exhibition

Skinners' Academy were invited to present a selection of GCSE and A-Level artwork at the West Reservoir Art Exhibition. The work displayed by talented Skinners' pupils was based on an Industrial, Urban and City Landscape theme. The artwork selected showed a diverse variety of techniques, choice of material and innovative concepts.

Mr Devlin, Head of Art & Design



“”

The exhibition was fantastic - well presented with diverse art pieces. Massive thank you to Mr Devlin & Ellie for your help and support, Skinners' are my best Hackney school! We would love to corporate again in the future.

Ivana Petrak,
Events Manager (West Reservoir)

Skinners'_Gallery Instagram

The art department have recently launched the Skinners'_Gallery Instagram page to showcase the artistic talent of our pupils. Follow Skinners'_Gallery to keep up to date with the outstanding and inspirational artwork that is being produced across all year groups.

Life Drawing

This term A-Level art students took part in a series of Life Drawing sessions. Three Year 13 students have detailed their experience below.

Robyn Barrett said: "The level of concentration was highly advanced especially with the one-minute drawing tasks we were set. I got a lot out of the first session and am very pleased with the outcomes. I am looking forward to attending these sessions on a weekly basis"

Armend Bajraktari said: "I found the Life Drawing session highly challenging due to time constrictions on drawing, I am not used to drawing so quickly, but I enjoyed the challenge. The skills I learnt were very transferable."

Berry Saunders said: "I am very happy that the Academy were able to provide us with the amazing opportunity to have Life Drawing sessions. It links directly to my work therefore helping build my portfolio with interesting art works."



Sixth Form Open Evening

Once again, our A-Level art students have continued the tradition of working on their creative pieces in the art rooms during open evenings. Visitors were impressed with their work, and how friendly and informative the students were when discussing the art curriculum at length.



Visiting the Natural History and Victoria & Albert Museums

On 2 & 3 November, both our Year 11 GCSE art classes visited the Natural History and Victoria & Albert museums to allow them the opportunity to view different types of artwork in the hopes of providing them inspiration for their own GCSE artwork.

Ms Ali, Teacher of Art & Design



Year 12 Mural Project

This term Year 12 art students have been painting the walls in the art corridor as part of their introduction to A-level art & design. The students investigated the role of urban street art and then drafted their own designs before painting directly onto the walls. This will be a work-in-progress for the remainder of the year but we welcome everyone to come and see how the work is developing.

Mr Devlin, Head of Art & Design



Future GCSE Art Pupil Badges

The top 25 art and design pupils in Year 7 & 8 were chosen to receive a 'Future GCSE Art Pupil' badge. The selected pupils have made an outstanding effort in art to complete all of their work to the highest standard possible, complete all homework tasks, and regularly submit additional artwork.



“”

The Asia rooms in the V&A were great. I was able to get lots of drawing completed and found lots that related to my current art project which is based around natural forms.

Mechak Lubaki, Year 11



Design & Technology (D&T)

Year 7 Repeat Pattern Batik Cushion

This year pupils completed a unit in textiles titled 'Repeat Pattern Batik Cushion'. As part of the unit pupils learnt about different repeat patterns before designing their own pattern based on the theme of nature.

Pupils did a fantastic job and used a variety of textiles techniques such as batik, hand embroidery and embellishment to complete their cushion design before using a sewing machine to sew their pieces together and stuffing their cushions to create a finished piece.

Ms Greco-Addo, Head of D&T



Screen Printing

The Year 10 GCSE group have spent this term expanding on their knowledge and understanding of colouring fabric. The pupils have specifically looked at dyeing and printing techniques, both modern and traditional. The images show the pupils working on their screen print tests.



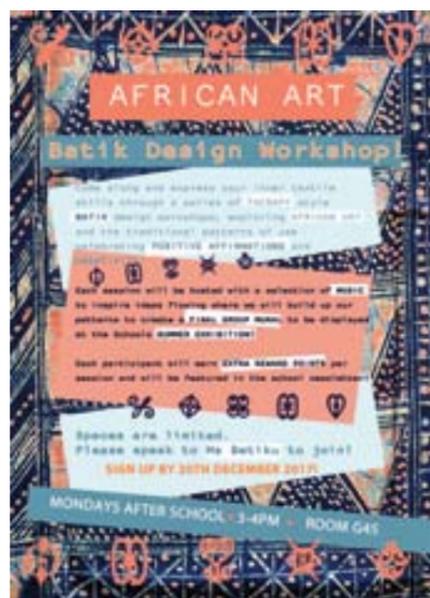
The batik cushion was an interesting project. I loved how all our designs linked together because they were all within the nature theme.

Selda Gudumen, Year 7



I find textiles really interesting and fun because it enables me to do things I haven't done before. Textiles is a subject where I learn to be creative. The technique I have enjoyed the most so far is screen printing as I found it really easy and it allowed my design to come out great.

Ummehani Kaba, Year 10



Cooking Club

The D&T department have had a fun and positive start to the year with the launch of our Academy Cooking Club. The club runs every Thursday at 3.00pm in G50, and this term was opened to Year 8 pupils who traded in their reward stamps for the opportunity to try their hand at cooking. Pupils showcased their talent in the kitchen via an assortment of sweet and savoury recipes.



It's been really fun getting to learn and try out different styles of cooking.

Christabel Adeyemi, Year 8

A-Level Food Tech

Well done to Year 12 students Alexander Brown Llabrés and Zahraa Mapara, who both achieved their Level 2 Food Safety Award. Both students took part in a training day in Central London before sitting an exam. This qualification means that both students can now work and train in commercial kitchens.

Food Safety Award in tow, both students took the opportunity to further their knowledge with some work experience in the Academy's canteen. They were able to have a hands-on approach and learn the ins and outs of working in a busy canteen kitchen.

Mr Ojewunmu, Teacher of D&T (Food Tech)



D&T - Sixth Form Taster Day

Some of our current Year 11 pupils harnessed the opportunity to try their hand at a range of our A-Level design subjects.

The taster day included introductory lessons of cooking traditional Cornish pasties in food & nutrition, pattern making in fashion & textiles, and structural design in 3D product design. All pupils showed great team work and enjoyed both the theory and practical elements of these subjects. It was great to hear so many say that they are keen to study within the department next year.



Cooking for a large amount of people takes a lot of prep-work and teamwork is key. I really enjoyed the experience.

Alexander Brown Llabrés, Year 12



Dyson Institute of Technology & Engineering

On 28 November, Sir James Dyson hosted an 'Open House' at the Dyson Institute of Engineering & Technology.

Students who receive a place to study at the Dyson Institute will not pay tuition fees and will instead receive an annual salary of up to £16,000. They will work alongside Dyson engineers for three days per week; spend one day in the classroom and one day conducting independent study.

The open house introduced our A-Level students to an alternative approach to higher education. They were able to tour the campus, talk to the first cohort of undergraduates to gain an understanding of university life, and meet Sir James Dyson himself.

Ms Greco-Addo, Head of D&T



Computing



Digital Media – Sixth Form Taster Day

Year 11 pupils had the chance to take part in the Sixth Form Taster Day by attending the digital media level 3 taster day session. This introduced pupils to the concept of digital marketing in a fast paced world. Pupils were quizzed about the use of music by major companies; such as Cadbury and British Airways, to successfully market products and services.

During the taster session, Year 11 pupils were given an eight-minute challenge to create a digital advertising concept for their given product. They then delivered a presentation to persuade the audience to appear in their advertising campaign – this saw good use of their negotiation and teamwork skills. Pupils thrived throughout the challenge.

Ms Rao, Head of Computing

Adobe Girls in Technology 2017

Did you know women represent less than 30% of the workforce in global technology companies? Yet studies have shown that teams with equal numbers of men and women are more likely to experiment, share knowledge, and be creative. Adobe wants to create an environment which supports the growth and development of global women leaders. It recognises the need to invest in education, training and mentorship of future generations – supporting the transition from school to technology careers.

A group of Year 9 & Year 10 girls were selected to attend the Adobe Girls in Tech Summit, London on Friday 10 November, which took place at the new Adobe offices in Old Street.

The day started with an insightful and humorous talk on the topic of '10 tips for staying sane online' by Emma Gannon, author of Ctrl Alt Delete. After the talk, our girls had the amazing opportunity to explore the world of Adobe and tour their creative and friendly office spaces followed by presentations and interactive exercises.

One exercise included a group based competition, working with girls from another school, to illustrate their day at the Adobe offices. They captured images and video footage, which they then edited using the Adobe Spark software, and pieced together as a presentation that was eventually judged by Garrett Ilg, the Adobe President of Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMEA). Two of our girls were part of the winning team – fantastic!

Ms Rao, Head of Computing &
Mrs Visram, Comms & Marketing Manager/Careers Development Coordinator



“”

The Girls in Tech event was an absolutely marvellous experience. They taught us new, interesting things and this event is likely to take me on a new [career] path that I hadn't considered before.

Tajala Ali, Year 9



Digital Media does Justice League!

Year 12 digital media students attended the VUE cinema in Leicester Square to watch the Justice League DC 3D movie on the big screen.

Students were able to explore the various uses of technology and advertising used to promote the movie both within the cinema and outside.

This was a great opportunity to learn beyond the classroom to see how media companies advertise and promote films to the public.

Ms Rao, Head of Computing

Digital Day 2017

Our Year 9 creative iMedia pupils and Year 12 digital media students worked alongside creative media company MullenLowe London, whose clients include; Netflix, Etihad and Google to name but a few, to complete the Digital day 2017 challenges initiated by the 'British Interactive Media Association' (BIMA).

This was an opportunity for digital professionals to visit the Academy for a day to inspire our pupils. They provided:

- Insight into the depth and breadth of careers available in the digital media industry.
- Practical advice on how to get into the digital media.
- The chance to get hands-on experience tackling challenges from brand sponsors.

Employees from MullenLowe also gave our pupils an insight into their work life and ways in which they have produced digital media solutions for their clients.



“““

The use of digital media is growing at a fast pace, ranging from personalised e-mail shots to interactive digital posters and digital billboards. It was great to hear and see how a media company such as MullenLowe works with their clients to produce amazing digital media advertising. This really enforced the need for pupils studying the courses to understand the importance of the project life cycle when completing their coursework.

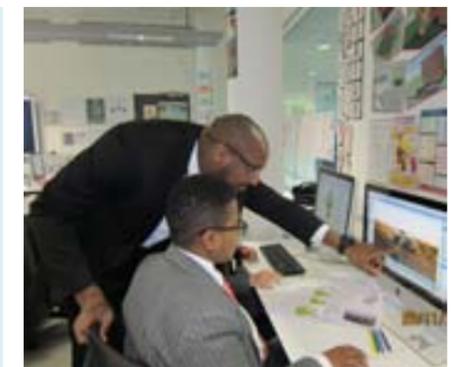
Ms Rao, Head of Computing



Creative iMedia does Photoshop

Year 9 creative iMedia pupils are currently exploring the use of graphic editing software to edit existing images of dragons using a range of tools and features in Adobe Photoshop. As part of their course, they will be required to use their digital skills to plan, design, create and review digital graphics for a given client. This aspect of their course will enable them to use a range of enterprising skills such as resilience when re-designing their piece to ensure it is fit for purpose, planning and innovation.

Ms Rao, Head of Computing



“““

I like Creative iMedia because it is unique compared to every other subject. It is fun and helps me understand how to be creative and teaches me ways to develop my skills e.g. design skills, creativity skills and ways to help me interact with my peers.

Balraj Singh, Year 9



E-Safety in KS3 Computing

Year 7 pupils have explored aspects of e-safety and ways in which they can keep themselves and others safe when online and when using various technologies. Pupils had the opportunity to learn:

- How to use technology respectfully.
- The range of methods used to keep safe when using technology.
- How to use technology responsibly.
- Methods used to keep data and personal data secure.
- How to identify and understand methods used to protect online identity and privacy.

Awareness has also been raised about the ongoing concerns and dangers of online grooming. Pupils learned that grooming can happen both online and in person as well as ways the different tactics used by groomers. They have also learned about the signs and symptoms of grooming to help empower them so that they are more aware when communicating with people online.

Science

“Friendly, fun and smoky atmosphere!”

What could this Year 8 pupil be talking about you wonder. The answer is an after school club where a group of pupils meet every Thursday with a common interest, Science!

Curious, Enquiring, Chatty - all these different personalities and interests come together as they, for instance, grow some broad beans and mustard cress, make jelly babies scream or construct water rockets. Why? So they can discuss, investigate and enjoy scientific ideas.

Through this common interest, science club members learn together whilst having fun. Whilst busy conducting experiments, they are also mixing with pupils from different friendship and year groups, and I am pleased to say they work very well together. Having joined in this club, they are getting ready for their future working lives without thinking about it.

Science - ‘My favorite subject’

It is important that an after school club gives pupils more opportunity to lead than is possible within the everyday curriculum timetable. Melissa Kose, Year 7, appreciates and enjoys the experience of experiments she has never done before.

Science club is lucky to have two club veterans; Rimshah Akhtar, Year 8, researches activities for the group to do, and Rudi Disney, Year 8, explains the science behind them. As club members they are up to date with science news, and have the support of the staff who provide objective views as the pupils learn through experiments.

As Jemima Tunani, Year 7, says, in the safe, supportive and fun atmosphere of the science club, ‘Explosions in practicals are fun!’

Mr Marson, Teacher of Science & Mr Betts, Science Technician



“”

I like science club because I get to talk to people who have the same interests as me and who I haven't spoken to before.

A shout out for Mr. Betts & Mr Marson, who make the club fun and exciting.

Ali Hayilri, Year 7

Mathematics

Thrilling Contest Between Top Mathematics Students

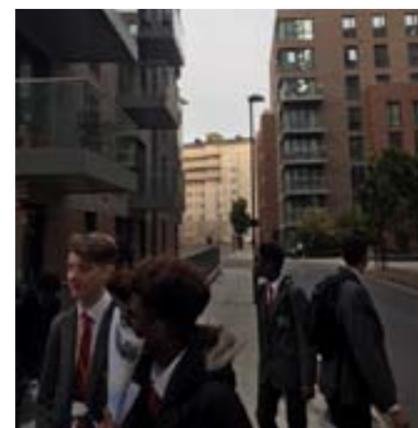
Queen Mary University of London, hosted 37 teams of the best mathematics students from local schools and colleges as they tackled a series of demanding mathematical challenges over a three-hour period. It was the regional final of the Senior Team Mathematics Challenge (STMC), a competition organised jointly by the Further Mathematics Support Programme and the UK Mathematics Trust, and sponsored by Rolls-Royce plc.

The team from Skinners' Academy was formed of Year 12 students, Joseph Merino Barros & Adil Hussain, and Year 13 students Ameen Rahman & Mustafa Kulekci. After three rounds of group based problem-solving, a cross-number puzzle and mathematical relay race, the boys placed 12th out of 37, the best ranking we have achieved in the competition so far. Well done team! The overall winners were the team from The Jewish Free School, who will go on to the national final in London on 6 February 2018.

The STMC is now in its 12th year and attracts over 1300 teams from schools and colleges from around the UK. The aim of the competition is to provide a stimulating and enjoyable challenge for 16-19 year old mathematics students by focusing on problem-solving, teamwork and communication skills.

Ms Dalkir, Mathematics KS3 Coordinator

Geography



This Term in Geography

At the start of the term, Year 7 showed how well they worked as young enterprise pupils by collaborating in groups on their ‘Where in the World’ project. They demonstrated how well they could plan, organise and work as a team. Year 8 have begun their work on globalisation and are completing their enterprise project on ‘Global Fashion Links’ and understanding the production cycle of a pair of jeans.

Congratulations to the geography Christmas reward winners who were treated to a special screening of the Oscar winning film ‘Slum Dog Millionaire’ as a reward for their efforts – Keep up the good work, hopefully we will have more rewards next term.

Year 9 & Year 10 have settled well into their GCSE years and are tackling the process of global circulation and urban challenges. Year 11 undertook their geography controlled assessment, looking at the regeneration of Woodberry Grove; they collected primary data by interviewing members of the public to understand the community perception of the changes made over the years.

A-level students have taken part in several workshops on the use of statistics and qualitative data, provided by Queen Mary University of London. Lecturers from the university visited the Academy to show how data can be analysed to help understand geographical data.

Ms McKinstry, Head of Geography

Travel & Tourism

BTEC Travel & Tourism

This year we welcomed our first Year 12 BTEC travel and tourism class, and the students have made a remarkable start. This term they have studied the travel and tourism sector and gained a wider understanding of the main roles of key organisations. The students are beginning to appreciate the importance of good time management and the need to be independent learners.

It is a pleasure to have such a keen and willing class, who show a genuine interest in the subject – keep it up everyone!

Ms Jackson, Teacher of Geography/ iC of Travel & Tourism

University of West London

On 11 October, Year 9 & Year 10 travel and tourism pupils enjoyed a visit to the University of West London. They had the opportunity to have a tour of the campus and gain an insight into university life.

Pupils took part in various bespoke activities which broadened their knowledge of the subject area. They also met with student ambassadors from the University for the opportunity to ask questions about studying at the university.

The visit was beneficial for our pupils as they gained knowledge and information about studying within a university environment.

Ms Jackson, Teacher of Geography/iC of Travel & Tourism



Student Services

#HelloYellow

World Mental Health Day is held on 10 October every year and aims to raise awareness of mental health issues and support good mental health for all.

At the Academy we showed our support with a whole week of assemblies looking at mental health, ways to have positive mental health, how to help yourself and get support at the most difficult times. We also joined thousands of children and young people for the Young Minds #HelloYellow campaign.

#HelloYellow was about supporting ourselves and each other to have positive mental health and spreading the word that, whatever you're going through, you can talk to someone. We got involved at the Academy by:

- Having a non-uniform day where lots of pupils and staff wore something yellow
- Holding a bake sale with loads of yellow baked goods!
- Making #HelloYellow bunting with positive messages, drawings and quotes to let each other know you're not alone when it comes to mental health...just a few of the messages are below:

"I like to sing when I feel down and talking to siblings is so great"

"Life is hard. Only you know your pain but a person who is strong as you knows how to overcome obstacles."

"Today's a new day keep smiling, every day is a new start"

Through our non-uniform day and bake sale we managed to raise a fantastic £621.82 which will be donated to Young Minds, the UK's leading charity committed to improving the emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people.

1 in 10 children and young people suffer from a diagnosable mental health problem such as depression, anxiety or an eating disorder. That is around three children in every classroom. Remember:

- We all have mental health the same as we have physical health
- Our mental health is the way we think, feel and behave
- You don't need to be an expert to talk about mental health or try to 'fix' someone's problems, just listen
- Talking about mental health doesn't need to be difficult and can make a big difference

Ms Windebank, Student Support Officer/Therapist



Mental Health & Emotional Wellbeing Enrichment Programme – CAMHS Trip

Our mental health & emotional wellbeing enrichment group meets every Wednesday during 5th period to discuss the overall outlook on mental health in a safe, open forum.

On 22 November, we were invited to visit the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) at Hackney Ark for a presentation and to engage in a workshop. CAMHS helps children and adolescents with issues related to mental health. The workshop consisted of a presentation by two CAMHS professionals who specialise in mental health.

The professionals discussed the ways young people and their families can contact CAMHS to get help with mental health worries or concerns and the different services available within CAMHS, like First Steps. Later we filled out a questionnaire on mental health in the UK and looked at issues like the percentage of children or adolescents suffering from a mental health problem, the severity of cases diagnosed clinically, and how this is only known through referrals.

The reason why discussing these issues really interests us is because it can relate directly to the A-Level courses myself and the other members of the group have chosen; biology, health and social care, and art. We also talked about related career choices, including being an art therapist, nurse, doctor, psychologist, psychiatrist and many more. This aided us understand the range of possibilities available to us in the future.

The presentation provided useful information about how big the problem of mental health issues is in the UK and why. For example, there was a question about why is it that girls might be more likely to suffer from an eating disorder? There is not one specific reason and the presentation helped me to understand that better. It also helped me to understand that many people have a different view on things that could also be to do with religious or cultural variations.

To conclude, I learned that children and adolescents have worries about not getting support from CAMHS once they get older. However, they can be helped as they get older by adult mental health services and this means that they do not have to fear.

Tajai Brown, Year 12

Year 10 Immunizations

Vaccination UK, working on behalf of NHS England, will be offering routine vaccinations to all Year 10 pupils in the spring term.

We encourage all our pupils to take up these routine vaccinations as part of their childhood immunization program.

Pupils will be vaccinated against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio (Revaxis), and the Meningitis ACWY on Tuesday 6 February and Wednesday 28 February 2018.

More information about these vaccinations will be given to pupils in January. They will also receive a consent form which must be completed and signed by a parent/carer, before it is returned to the Academy.

Ms Carroll, Academy Nurse

Information & Support

Childline

Tel: 0800 1111 (free number)
Website: www.childline.org.uk

Samaritans

Tel: 116 123 (free number)
Email: jo@samaritans.org
Website: www.samaritans.org

Young Minds

Tel: 0808 802 5544
Website: www.youngminds.org.uk

CAMHS

Tel: 0207 683 4611 or 0203 222 5600
Website: www.cityandhackneycamhs.org.uk

Time to Change

Website: www.time-to-change.org.uk

Or see Ms Windebank in S20 or Mrs Carroll, Academy Nurse

DOWNLOAD OUR NEW
SKINNERS' ACADEMY APP

FROM THE APP STORE (APPLE)
OR GOOGLE PLAY (ANDROID)

There have been more than 400 downloads since the app launched in October. Please take one minute to download it and enjoy this extra way to keep up to date with what's happening at Skinners' Academy.





Learning Resource Centre (LRC)



This Term in the LRC

The LRC has had a busy start to the year with a wide range of activities and some notable highlights. These include:

- A thriving LRC with an average of 85 pupils using it for reading and studies every day before school, during break and lunch, and even after school!
- A new team of Pupil Librarians! Many thanks go to current and previous pupil librarians for all their contributions to the smooth running of the LRC.
- Library inductions were held for all Year 7 pupils where they also selected their free BookBuzz fiction book which they will receive before Christmas.
- A variety of LRC displays including a focus on Black History Month, World Mental Health Day and Remembrance Day, all of which proved very popular.
- Skinners' Academy is one of six schools chosen to pilot the Digital Shakespeare resource. Its report will influence the rollout of it to schools across the country in the near future.

The LRC also held a couple of competitions in the Autumn term.

We received several entries for the National Poetry Day competition on 28 September. All entries were very good, however there could only be one winner; Year 13 student Kamran Rzazada, stood out for his poem's composition and uplifting message (please read his winning entry to the right).

The sixth form BTEC business students held a competition to design a poster advertising the Scholastics Bookfair where pupils, parents and staff could buy books at half price. The winning entries were then displayed in the LRC.

Well done to all participants in both competitions.

Ms Lutterodt, Librarian

The Building of my Freedom by Year 13's Kamran Rzazada

Legends on the wall
As I arise from my sleep,
Seven times champions
Time is our defeat

Meal after meal
Through the countless days,
Preparing to fail
But succeeding into the right way

Entering my zone
Through both the body and the mind,
I conquer all that I see
And all that I have

Pain and growth
Is the pleasure for my success,
I will not fall and give up
Until my night's rest

I pump the freedom
That flows inside my veins,
Like a python glissading
Along his mountain plains

What I paint and in vision
Is an art form in itself?
Having a blank canvas
And sculpting its dress

This art allows me to blockade
The noise and the stress,
Allows me to focus
To grab freedom by the chest

To the falls of this sport
And to the upcoming failures,
Never give up
Life is too short to not live to the fullest

In honour of Dalas McCarver.
R.I.P
09/04/1991-22/08/2017

Physical Education (PE)

Sports Personalities of the Year - 2017

At the Academy's annual Prize Giving Ceremony, we celebrated the fantastic achievements of our 2017 Sports Personalities.

Here is why they were selected to receive the award...



Year 7	Sabrina Brightly	Sabrina works hard in lessons and represents the Academy in athletics, football, netball, rounders and rugby. She is competitive and always pushes herself and her team to achieve the best
	Daniel Taiwo	Daniel is part of the Academy's athletics, basketball and football teams, and captains the rugby team. Daniel was chosen to compete in the Inner London Athletics competition as part of Hackney's team.
Year 8	Rachel Asare	Rachel is a pleasure to teach and inspires her peers. Her sporting attitude is excellent; she never skips a training session or forgets her kit. Rachel represents the Academy in football, netball and rounders.
	Jamal Adam	Jamal has shown his ability and commitment to football throughout the year. He trains and plays for the Academy team but was also selected to play for the Hackney Borough team.
Year 9	Julia Heinrich	Julia is a confident sportsperson who tries her hand at any sporting activity. Julia represents the Academy in badminton, netball and rounders and led the football team to the finals of the annual football tour.
	Lloyd Aboagye-Kumi	Lloyd represents the Academy at athletics, basketball and football. Lloyd captained a team during our recent football tour to Camber Sands where he demonstrated excellent leadership skills.
Year 10	Erin Opata	Erin has worked incredibly hard in her PE GCSE and Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. Erin is currently working to achieve her Junior Sports Leaders Award and plays for the Hackney Netball Club.
	Lucas Wingrove	Lucas is an outstanding athlete. He represents Essex as an artistic gymnast where he has received silver medals on both the rings and bars apparatus and a gold medal in the vault event.
Year 11	Rose Pepperday	Rose's commitment to sport during her time at the Academy has been nothing less than outstanding. Rose captained our rounders team, leading them to gold in the Hackney Championships. Out of school, she has excelled in her sports of mixed martial arts and swimming. Rose achieved an A* for her PE GCSE.
	Ishmael Charles	Ishmael was proudly awarded a B for his PE GCSE, which was two grades above his target. This achievement was due to his hard working ethic and endless studying. Ishmael's coursework and practical exam were marked as one of the highest in the class achieving an A* which he so rightly deserved.



Duke of Edinburgh – Bronze

In November 132 Year 11 pupils received their Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) Bronze Award – presented by Richard Collison from the DofE and our principal, Mr Clark.

The figures show that again Skinners' Academy have the greatest number of completions in Hackney, and are in the top ten DofE Bronze achieving schools in London; being the number one non selective/non fee paying school.

The pupils made this excellent achievement by completing the mandatory four sections of the award over the last academic year. Pupils completed their physical section through trampolining, boxing or vaulting; their skills section through completing a basic first aid course; and their volunteering section in their own time.

They concluded the award with their expedition to Epping Forest in July. In groups of six, pupils had to navigate and walk from checkpoint to checkpoint carrying their tents, cooking stoves and food in their back packs. When arriving at the campsite they then had to put their tents up and cook their food using gas camping stoves. All pupils found the expedition challenging but rewarding, and despite a few wrong turns, they all successfully hit their checkpoints and completed their routes!

Year 11 pupils will have the opportunity to continue with DofE and start their Gold Award in the Academy's sixth form. Whilst, current Year 10 pupils are starting the award with the aim of beating the number of pupils who completed the award from the previous year!

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE/Talented Coordinator



Sports Leaders

Year 11 pupils are currently taking part in the Junior Sports Leaders programme during their PE lessons. They began in September and have just completed their final assessment.

Over six weeks, they taught PE classes to Year 3, 4 & 5 pupils from our neighbouring primary school Woodberry Down and Sir Thomas Abney in Stoke Newington.

All Year 11 pupils taking part in the programme are expected to pass with flying colours.

Ms O'Neill, Head of PE

Year 7 Boys Football

The Academy's Year 7 team have faced tough opposition in their opening four games this year. Their first game against Woolwich Polytechnic in the Inner London Cup ended in a 3-0 loss at home. The game tested the squad's determination as they faced a strong side. The team defended well for the first half keeping the score level. Unfortunately, Woolwich capitalised three opportunities securing their place in the second round of the cup.

Skinners' league campaign started off similarly losing 6-3 to Haggerston School in a hard fought match. Despite our relentless desire to keep the score level, it was not enough. Haggerston scored a great free kick making it 4-3 and then finished the game off with two late goals. Despite this result our boys came out in the next game ready to battle again. Skinners' managed to get their first win away from home against Bridge Academy. The game ended 6-5 after Bridge threw away a three goal lead and allowed Christivie Bwana to score six goals.

It has been a productive season so far for the Academy's Year 7 team. The squad have experienced many rotations and different formations whilst getting to know their teammates in a very small space of time. The boys understand that the focus for this year is development. Developing a better understanding of the game is priority as well as building the right squad for future years to come. If the boys continue to show the commitment in training and in matches that they have done so far we will have a very strong squad for the following years to come.

Well done to all Year 7s that have attended training and represented the Academy.

Mr Smith, Teacher of PE



Year 8 Boys Football

The Year 8 team have not had the best start to the season with three big losses; however, the players are going through a developmental year working towards understanding their role within the team and how to play for each other. We hope that the second half of the season leads us to more positive results.

Mr Howe, HOY10/Teacher of PE



Year 9/10 Boys Football

The Year 9/10 football team have started the season very well with two positive results in the new Hackney mid-week league, and a good away performance in the Inner London Cup.

First, Skinners' played City Academy in the mid-week league – struggling early on with some new season cobwebs and a very strong wind at Hackney Marshes, the score line was 1-1 at half time. The second half saw Skinners' use the wind to their advantage and get into their stride, goals from Year 10 pupils Maruf Ahad and Zubair Jauffurally plus an excellent free kick from captain Kevin Samuel helped the team to a comfortable 4-1 win. Zubair was named 'Man of the Match' for his endless running and closing down up front.

This was followed by another good win against Urswick School 3-1. Skinners' controlled the game and two well taken goals from Telmo Cangoma and a third goal from Maruf, both in Year 10, helped the team secure another win. This put Skinners' top of the table with games still to come against Haggerston, Bridge, Petchey and Stoke Newington.

In the Inner London Cup, Skinners' travelled south to Bishop Thomas Grammar (BTG) school in Dulwich. This was a good opportunity to play on an immaculate pitch against a strong team. Skinners' more than held their own with some great goals from Year 10 pupils Kai Hollis Warner and Telmo. The game swung back and forth to 3-3. Eventually Skinners' tired and BTG came through to win the game 5-3.

Mr Legge, Teacher of PE/Talented Coordinator

Netball at Skinners' Academy

This term has seen our netball teams across all year groups truly excel. So far our Year 7, Year 8 and Year 10/11 teams are undefeated in the league, sitting first across all tables.

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

Ms O'Neill, Head of PE

	School	Played	Won	Lost	Draw
Year 7	Skinners' Academy	4	4	0	0
	Our Lady's Convent School	1	0	1	0
	Stoke Newington	1	0	1	0
Year 8	Skinners' Academy	4	4	0	0
	City Academy	1	1	0	0
	Clapton Girls	3	0	3	0
Year 9	Our Lady's Convent School	5	3	0	2
	Skinners' Academy	3	2	0	1
	Stoke Newington	2	0	2	0
Year 10/11	Skinners' Academy	4	4	0	0
	Clapton Girls	3	2	1	0
	Stoke Newington	2	1	1	0



Year 7/8 Boys Rugby

The Year 7/8 got a great start to their season against City Academy scoring six tries against second in the Borough, City Academy. After a period of conceding some points to the opposition, our boys kept their heads held high and were confidently (and vocally) coordinated by our team captains and scrum half, to make some fantastic runs and lines with the ball. A real team effort!

Our try scorers were Daniel Taiwo, Year 8 (4), Tyler Iteku, Year 8 (1), and Roam Reddy-White, Year 7 (1). Well done team!

Ms Bouwers, HOY7/Teacher of PE



Sports Day Recap

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

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

Unfortunately due to a downpour the night before, pupils were unable to perform in the competitive high-jump.

What everyone was really waiting for was the excitement of the races which truly met everyone's expectations.

Although we didn't manage to complete all activities we still managed to tally up the scores and announce that Judd had earned the most points and were the winning house of the day with a total score of 1884.

Ms O'Neill, Head of PE

Meeting Arsenal Ladies Star, Leah Williamson

We are part way through the season with the Year 7/8 girls football team currently sitting middle of the table. With four wins, two draws and two losses - lots of hard work will need to continue into January. The girls were lucky enough to meet a current England/Arsenal first team player who took time to answer our girls' questions and play some small-sided games with them at Arsenal's Emirates Stadium.

Ms Bouwers, HOY7/Teacher of PE



Parents' Corner

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

Our website:

www.skinnersacademy.org.uk

Twitter:

@skinnersacademy; @skinners6thform

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/skinnersacademyhackney

LinkedIn:

Search Skinners' Academy

Dates for your diary

Monday 8 January
Term Starts

Wednesday 7 - Friday 9 February
Academy Production Nights

Friday 16 February
Deadline for Sixth Form Applications

Monday 12 - Friday 16 February
Half-Term

Thursday 22 March
Spring Concert

Friday 23 March
Music Café

Thursday 29 March
Term Ends - 1.00pm

Academy Production



SCHOOLS WILL ROCK YOU

Skinners' Academy's *presentation of* We Will Rock You

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

Public Performance Nights:
Wednesday 7 - Friday 9 February 2018
Start Time: 7.00pm

Tickets to all three performance nights can be purchased from the Skinners' Academy Reception
Adults £4.50 | Concessions £3.00

Presented by permission of www.schoolswillrockyou.com