



ISLEWORTH &  
SYON SCHOOL  
FINIS CORONAT OPUS

# ANNUAL REVIEW

academic year 2015-2016

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome to our Annual Review of 2015-16 and a chance to look back at some of the highlights of the last school year.

The school has a long and proud tradition for the high quality education of local boys, and a more recent and growing reputation for similarly looking after the best interests of an increasing number of Sixth Form girls.

With an ever-growing local population and new schools on the horizon, we will continue to focus on our own priorities of ensuring a high quality academic education, offering an exemplary range of additional opportunities, and retaining some of our long and fine traditions. We have always found this to be the best way to ensure the continued success of both our students and the school.

An analysis of the summer's examination results confirms that we remain the most consistently top-performing non-selective school for local boys. It is important to measure our results against boys in mixed settings both locally and nationally, and it is always pleasing to us that our boys do perform better when measured against boys in local mixed schools and against boys nationally.

At A-Level, our student outcomes were excellent. The pass rate was over 99%, with over 50% of all A-Level grades at A\*-B. Across the whole year, over 80% of grades were at C or above, cementing our position as being in the top 10% of schools nationally for added-value.

At GCSE, new progress measures show that our boys continue to comfortably out-perform their peers nationally on every measure. As importantly, we remain extremely proud of the manner in which our students develop over their time with us into mature, considerate and ambitious young men.

At our Senior Awards Evening for 2015-16 we were delighted to welcome former student and award-winning architect and designer, John Edwards, back to school. A graduate of the University of Cambridge and of the Royal College of Art, John is currently working for Useful Studio and one of his current projects is our new teaching block. It was a delight to hear him reflect on his time at school and on his career to date.

The school does provide an outstanding education for our students and we look forward to another excellent school year.

**E Ferguson**

I am grateful to Michael Kettle, former student and the school's Communications Officer, for compiling this Annual Review. I would also like to extend my thanks to Beat Creative for the design and production of this publication.

Cover artwork by Robbie Whitmore (11C).



# ELLIS BLOOM EARNS PLACE AT LAMDA

BY ELLIS BLOOM (13JST)



Ellis during the A2 drama piece.

The application process for drama schools is somewhat different to the usual procedure. I had to apply through the websites of these schools and send my CV, personal statement and personal information separately. If the schools liked my application, I was emailed an interview date! I had an interview rather than an audition because I want to go into technical theatre - the backstage side.

I was first offered an interview to LAMDA, the London Academy of Dramatic Art, and the assembling of the portfolios began. My portfolio included photos of the school productions and my outside experience with the National Youth Theatre. On arrival at LAMDA, there was first a tour of the building and facilities, alongside other trembling, portfolio-clutching applicants, then an agonising wait while the interviews took place one-by-one. I was accompanied by some current students, who told me all the gritty details; they were all really friendly and encouraging. The interview itself was really just a chat with some of the staff members. My one piece of advice is to go to an open day beforehand and try your best to make a good impression - I did this and it turned

out that the course director remembered me, which made the interview a lot easier and more relaxing. The next day, I received a call from the course director, to offer me an unconditional place.

RADA and Guildhall were later with their application process, and they didn't open until I had received most of my UCAS offers (Rose Bruford, Bath Spa and Guildford School of Acting). The RADA interview day was identical to that of LAMDA's in regards to its informal nature - it turned out that I was the first interviewee they had this year! Four days later, I received a call from their course director, offering me an unconditional place.

The Guildhall interview was the last interview I had. It was slightly different to the other ones as it went on throughout the day. It started with an introduction talk, then a tour of the facilities and the accommodation (one thing the other drama schools did not have) and then a group exercise to show your skills under pressure, and, finally, the interview. This interview was more formal - everyone was asked to bring their portfolios and programmes from drama productions they had seen, and our GCSE English results. Three weeks after the interview,

I received a call offering me an unconditional place!

My final decision came down to the two schools that are, in my opinion, the most prestigious: LAMDA and RADA. I had been to see several productions from each party, and I was thoroughly impressed by the standard and professionalism, which made the decision even harder. I also spoke to many industry professionals, and former and current students. I eventually had to go with my gut instinct, which was LAMDA. Firstly, LAMDA's new facilities would be highly beneficial for me, as not only would I be working on shows all around London, I'd also have a brand new, state-of-the-art set location to do them as well! Secondly, the variety, bravery and innovation of LAMDA's productions was more impressive; as a budding Stage Manager, that is an aspect I look for in shows. Lastly, I appreciated the convenience of location and ease of access to the schools.

I would like to thank all of the drama teachers, especially Mrs Davies Jones, Mr McDonnell and Ms Dubell for their support and guidance, and I finally feel that I have made the right decision.

# IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE!

The school production is a long-standing tradition at the school, with students from Isleworth & Syon teaming up with girls from the Green School for an epic two nights of performances on our stage. This performance, of festive classic 'It's a Wonderful Life!', took place on Thursday 3 and Friday 4 December. It is not an understatement to say that every single student really rose to the occasion and gave the performance of their lives!

There were a number of Sixth Form students for whom, sadly, this was to be their final ever performance on the Isleworth & Syon stage. George Bridgewater (13ANO), Louis Kelly (13JST), Jack Takeda (13JST) and Mo Abuelmeaza (13ALE) all gave show-stopping

performances, leaving the audience close to tears at several points! Special praise must also go to some of the younger members of the ensemble, with students such as Tom Keenan (10F) and Aadi Mudhar (9B) doing fantastic work! It is, however, a little unfair to single out any one student in particular, as there was not a weak link in sight.

A special mention should be given to Miss Phillips and the music department. All ambient music in the production was written and composed by students and Miss Phillips, and the musical ensemble played an integral role in establishing a sense of atmosphere. A huge well done to everyone involved in all aspects of the production, from the actors to the musicians, the technical team and the teaching staff - suffice it to say that it will be incredibly difficult to top this next year!





## TAHEEN MODAK EARNS PLACE AT BRISTOL OLD VIC



We were delighted to receive notice during the Autumn Term that former student Taheen Modak has been accepted to study acting at the Bristol Old Vic, one of the most prestigious drama schools in the country.

This followed a long and complex audition process, which began in December 2014. It is quite fair to claim this selection as a real coup for the school, as Taheen was spotted by members of the performing arts department and encouraged into a potential career path that he had not previously considered.

Everyone at Isleworth & Syon wishes him all the best as he pursues his dream of becoming a stage actor.

## 'THE WOMAN IN BLACK'

There were frights lurking around every corner on Thursday 5 November, as our Year 10 and 11 GCSE Drama cohort went to see a terrifying production of Stephen Mallatrat's play 'The Woman in Black' at the Fortune Theatre in London's West End. As part of Section C of their GCSE, students have to write about live performance, and there was certainly much to comment on in this chilling production - it is fair to say that the students were very scared, although they did their best to hide it! It truly was a spectacular production, giving the boys a further insight into the many creative and technical processes involved with live theatre.

## 'OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD' STUDY DAYS

At the end of September, our Year 13 A-Level Drama & Theatre Studies students were given the opportunity to take part in a number of study days in support of their set text, Timberlake Wertenbaker's 'Our Country's Good'. These days were organised by the National Theatre, and proved to be a fantastic gateway into the text.

On Tuesday 29 September, the group took part in an all-day conference on the play, discussing the text's many nuanced themes via a masterclass with the actors. In the evening, they took in the National Theatre production of the play. The group were unanimous in their overwhelmingly positive verdict of the production, and were particularly impressed with the way that the play was staged. They also really enjoyed the musical score, which had been composed by former Catatonia lead singer Cerys Matthews!

There were two further talks over the course of the next week, with one discussing the play's historical context, and the other taking the form of a question-and-answer session with the playwright and the director of the production. This was a fantastic, once-in-a-lifetime experience for the five students, who each came away from the week with a greatly-enhanced understanding of the play's themes, which they then wrote about in their summer examination.



The event was very well-attended!

## FESTIVE CHEER ABOUNDS AT THIS YEAR'S CAROL CONCERT!

One of our favourite school traditions is the annual Carol Concert, held just around the corner from school at St. Mary's Church. On a cold Monday night on 14 December, all of our fabulous music ensembles came together for a Christmas extravaganza! The concert began with a warm welcome from the Reverend Rosie Hoad, and a number of Bible readings were made throughout the evening, from Mr Ferguson, Jude Collie (7E) and Aadi Mudhar (9B).

We began with the jazz band, who performed two numbers - 'The Blue Brothers Rockin' Soul Revue' and the Christmas classic 'Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas'. They were joined for this performance by three of our excellent peripatetic music teachers from the Hounslow Music Service - Mr Ashton, Mr Frost and Miss Stoffer. Afterwards, it was time for the ukulele group, who delighted with two traditional carols - 'Angels We Heard on High' and 'God Rest Ye Gentlemen'. It was great to see how much the group has progressed since their first-ever performance at the 2014 Carol Concert.

The brass group is perhaps our most experienced ensemble of them all, and they gave a wonderful performance of 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing'. Some of those boys stayed on for the choir performance; it was fantastic to see such a mix of ages singing with gusto for their performance of Jonathan Larson's 'Seasons of Love', with representatives from Year 7 all the way to Year 13! They were quickly followed by the string group's performance of 'Mary Did You Know' - it was great to have members of teaching staff as part of the ensemble, with Miss Lupton, Miss Low and Miss Phillips joining in with the fun!

One of the highlights of the whole concert was from the concert band, as they played Poliakin's 'The Canary'. They were joined by Sixth Form's Cara Doyle (12JST) who performed an absolutely spellbinding and incredibly technical clarinet solo, which gave the audience goosebumps! The great performances just kept on coming, with both junior and senior guitar ensembles giving great renditions of Christmas classics from new arrangements by Mr Rolet. The audience particularly enjoyed the steel pans ensemble, led by Rowan Thwaites (11F), while the roof was nearly blown off by the Rock School



Tom Keenan (10F) and Adam Greaves (11B) of the Rock School ensemble.



Members of our string ensemble - Max Lundlack-Orr (11C) and Adam Greaves (11B).

performances of James Bay's 'Hold Back the River' and Wizzard's cult classic 'I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday' - there was much toe-tapping to the latter!

Sammy Standing (9B) has become a stalwart of these sort of concerts, and he gave another breathtaking piano recital of Chopin's 'Mazurka in C'. The staff ensemble couldn't resist getting in on the action, singing '12 Days of Christmas' - with props! It was then time for the final performance, as the concert band performed 'Star of Bethlehem' from the film 'Home Alone', and ended with a lovely performance of 'Cantique de Noel'.

The retiring collection was once again donated to 'Street Child Africa', an important charity working with homeless children in Africa - our sincere thanks to everyone who made a donation. A night like this wouldn't be possible without the work of Miss Phillips and Mr Rolet in the music department, so well done to them for such excellent organisation of rehearsals and the event itself. Finally, our thanks to every single one of the musicians who took part in the evening, many in multiple ensembles - you continue to prove why Isleworth & Syon is the best destination for budding musicians.



## LONDON SCHOOLS' SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The first school trip of this year took place on Tuesday 22 September, as Miss Phillips took a small group of students from Years 10-13 to the Barbican Theatre to see the London Schools' Symphony Orchestra. It was an absolutely fantastic evening, made even more special by the fact that one of our Sixth Form students, Cara Doyle, played principle clarinet in the orchestra!

This was an outstanding show that was open to the members of the public. It was an absolutely huge orchestra, containing a wide range of instruments, including the harp, clarinet, cello, violin, viola, and oboe. The students were absolutely blown away by the scale of the concert, and had a wonderful time! The show will also have an educational benefit; Miss Phillips commented afterwards, "This show will allow the students to understand how the different timbres of orchestra work in a live acoustic space - this in turn will be immensely helpful for their upcoming examinations."

The school was given free tickets by the Centre for Young Musicians (part of the Guildhall School for Music and Drama) - our thanks go to them. The cohort was a credit to the school, with a member of the public commenting on the exemplary nature of their behaviour. Well done to them!

## 'LES MISÉRABLES'



A large part of the A-Level Music course is the study and discussion of live performance. To that end, Miss Phillips took her cohort to Her Majesty's Theatre in London's West End on Thursday 7 January, for a thrilling performance of the theatrical classic 'Les Misérables'. The four students were treated to a sensory feast, with the live orchestra a

fundamental part of the production. They came away with a much greater understanding of how live music can be used to contribute to performance.

## VERBATIM THEATRE DAY AT THE NATIONAL

Our five Year 13 A-Level Drama & Theatre Studies students visited the National Theatre on Tuesday 24 November for a day of workshops focused on the 'verbatim theatre' genre. This type of play is a form of documentary theatre which is based on the spoken words of real people, using information from sources like recorded interviews and transcripts. The day was of particular interest to the group, as they were in the process of developing their own verbatim-style devised piece focused on the Lance Armstrong doping scandal.

During the day, the students had access to archived scripts and programmes, and watched a filmed production of 'London Road' performed in that specific style. The day was extremely helpful as it gave them a sense of what the genre is about, as well as providing them with ideas for techniques that they could utilise in their own piece.

## 'RISE UP'

On Tuesday 22 September, Mr McDonnell took his Year 10 GCSE Drama group to the Green School to watch a performance of the play 'Rise Up'. This touring production is performed by the company Theatre Centre, and is an hour-long piece about the civil rights movement in America. It dramatises the true story of the 'Freedom Riders', a group of black and white students who rode buses across the southern states of America and broke the rules of segregation.

As such, the play deals with important themes about racial tensions and divides, and it certainly received a strong response from our cohort, many of whom were experiencing their first piece of live drama. After the play had finished, there was a question-and-answer session with the actors that further expanded on the fascinating ideas raised throughout the piece. The boys came away thrilled with this poignant and evocative experience.

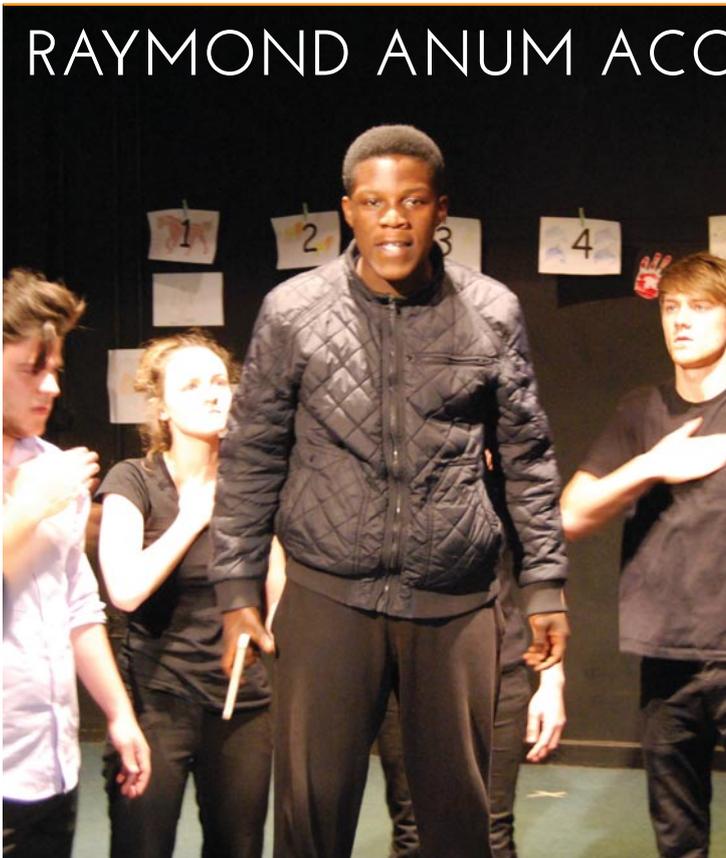
## OUTSTANDING A-LEVEL DRAMA RESULTS!



Following their time at the National Theatre researching the verbatim genre, our Year 13 A-Level Drama & Theatre students got to work devising their piece, based on the story of Lance Armstrong. This three-month process culminated in their final-ever Isleworth & Syon practical performance, which took place on Wednesday 9 March to a packed audience in Room 100. The piece, titled 'Lines Crossed', used witness testimony, interviews, and other text-based sources.

It was an outstanding production with some truly inventive staging. All of their hard work paid dividends when it came to the final marks - both Ellis Bloom (13JST) and George Bridgewater (13ANO) achieved an astonishing full marks, while Louis Kelly, Em Shanahan and Jack Takeda (all 13JST) were only a few marks away. Well done to the entire group - this achievement is a testament to their work ethic during their seven years at the school.

## RAYMOND ANUM ACCEPTS PLACE AT RADA



We were delighted to hear that former student Raymond Anum has been accepted into the Royal Academy of the Dramatic Art (RADA), widely-recognised as one of the best drama schools in the world. Famous alumni from this prestigious school include Sir John Hurt, Sir Roger Moore, Dame Diana Rigg and Imelda Staunton.

Following long and arduous application processes, Raymond was faced with a tough decision, as he received firm offers from RADA and Bristol Old Vic, the latter of which is currently attended by his former classmate Taheen Modak. He also had a final recall to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. It is a phenomenal achievement to get this far at all three schools, each of which are extremely sought-after and competitive.

Raymond eventually plumped for RADA, and will study a BA (Hons) in Acting. This means that come September, three Isleworth & Syon alumni will be studying at top drama schools across the country - a testament to the work from Mr McDonnell and the rest of the Performing Arts team. During his time with us, Raymond demonstrated outstanding skill and commitment, consistently driving himself to be better, and he is now reaping the rewards of his hard work. We can't wait to see where he ends up!

Raymond Anum during his Year 13 BTEC Performing Arts performance, for which he received top grades!

# SUMMER ARTS & TECHNOLOGY EVENING

Tuesday 28 June was a truly special evening as we hosted our annual Summer Arts & Technology Evening. This event brings together the art, design & technology (DT), drama and music departments for a magical event which truly drives home the breadth of talent on offer at Isleworth & Syon. The evening used the 'promenade' format, with half the audience starting in the canteen (drama and then art and DT) and half starting in the hall (music rotation), before swapping over.

The stage was set for drama in the canteen, and our Key Stage 3 drama club did not disappoint as they put on a performance of Erich Kästner's 'Emil and the Detectives'. It received rapturous applause from the audience, who enjoyed the dark humour present in the piece. Particular standout performances came from Jude Collie and Cade Nation, two Year 7 students who clearly have bright futures on the Isleworth & Syon stage.

Parents/carers and guests had a wonderful time exploring the art and design & technology departments. The three art rooms had a selection of student work from GCSE and A-Level, while the corridor displayed some exemplar Key Stage 3 artwork. Many of these pieces wouldn't look out of place in a gallery! They were accompanied by our wonderful steel pans group. Meanwhile, over in DT, the displays consisted of an exhibition of GCSE Electronics and GCSE Resistant Materials products, as well as some Key Stage 3 items. The centrepiece was a fabulous motorised scooter! (see below).



'Emil and the Detectives'.

It is almost predictable at this point that the music segment of the evening was outstanding, but it needs to be reiterated that the standard here was just extraordinary. Every year, the department seems to raise its game, and Miss Phillips and Mr Rolet did a great job. Highlights of the music rotation (co-compered by Sixth Form students George Bridgewater and Jack Takeda) included the choir's lovely performance of Train's hit 'Hey, Soul Sister', with students from across the school coming together. The strings group played some incidental music from hit television series 'Game of Thrones' - without any dragons - while the concert band raised the spirits with a rendition of 'Jai Ho' by A.R. Rahman.

year under the tutelage of Mr Rolet, and they gave a great performance of Gotye's 'Somebody That I Used to Know'. Sticking with the junior students, the junior brass ensemble enraptured the crowd with their lively medley! The rotation ended with Rock School's amazing performance of 'Adventures of a Lifetime' by Coldplay, featuring the debut of James Cherian (11F) on vocals.

It was then time for both groups to join together for the final half-hour music concert, which began with jazz band's up-tempo rendition of 'Locked Out of Heaven' by Bruno Mars. The strings group put an orchestral spin on David Guetta's dance anthem 'Titanium', before the ukuleles played soul classic 'Ain't Nobody'. The choir returned for a triumphant Coldplay medley, with lots of vocal accompaniment from the



Alan Wali (9C) and Sammy Standing (9B) combined on the violin and piano to perform the classic 'Cossack Dance', while jazz band got the toes tapping with their excellent performance of 'Mas, que Nada!' by Jorge Ben. Our junior guitar group have prospered this



Outstanding work from DT...



Jake Ince-Moore (7B) gives his debut performance as part of the Strings group.



The choir in full voice.

audience! Following in the footsteps of the juniors from earlier were our senior guitar ensemble and their rendition of The Eagles' 'Hotel California'.

It was then time for something completely different, as James Cherian performed a solo that he himself had arranged. It was an acoustic medley of 'Work' by Rihanna and Drake's 'One Dance', and the performance expertly married two songs that are exceedingly different! There was a lot to live up to for the Rock School, one of the staples of these concerts - but they did not disappoint with their medley of 'House of

the Rising Sun', 'Johnny B. Goode' and 'Heroes'. Several of this ensemble are heading off to pastures new in September, but they can be proud of their final performance on the Isleworth & Syon stage.

Time for only two more performances, and it is safe to say that the best was saved for last. The concert band gave an outstanding rendition of John Williams' 'Star Wars: The Force Awakens' score, a complex piece that sounded absolutely fantastic! The final performance of the evening came from the staff band, who had the crowd on

their feet with 'Don't Stop Me Now' by Queen. They received a standing ovation from the audience!

This event is a testament to the sheer level of creative talent on display at Isleworth & Syon - talent that is nurtured not just in the classroom but through extra-curricular time as well. A huge well done to all of the students involved, but also to the staff - Miss Phillips, Mr Rolet, Mr McDonnell, Mrs Davies Jones and Miss Dubell in music and drama; Mr Carpenter and Miss Pacwa in art; and Mr Scanlon, Mr Elliston, Miss Jheeta and Mr Browell in DT.



... and art!



## WILL MILLETT EARNs PLACE AT ROYAL COLLEGE OF MUSIC

The school's performing arts pedigree continues to grow, as another student has earned a place at a prominent performing arts school. We were delighted in May to learn that Will Millett (9D) has been accepted into the Royal College of Music's junior department, starting every Saturday in September. This is an extremely prestigious opportunity, working at one of the top music colleges not just in the UK but in the world. During his time there, he will be given the opportunity to study composition and musical theory, as well as playing in the renowned Royal College of Music ensemble and having one-to-one tuition from specialist teachers. Well done, Will!



The Concert Band in full flow!

## CONCERT BAND PERFORM FOR ST PAUL'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

The week before Summer Arts & Technology Evening, our concert band had their first-ever live performance in front of an audience. The band was newly-formed by Miss Phillips in September, and is made up of our most talented musicians. This particular performance was held at St Paul's Church, with the audience made up of

students from St Paul's CofE Primary School. The entire school was present, but if this got the band's nerves jangling, it certainly didn't show!

They performed their repertoire with aplomb, with highlights including excerpts from the 'Pirates of the Caribbean' soundtrack and 'Don't Stop

the Beat' from Hairspray. In between each performance, Miss Phillips introduced the different elements of the ensemble to the children, asking them to guess the instrument - which the children loved! The group concluded their performance with a medley from the most recent Star Wars film, 'The Force Awakens'. It was an excellent performance that put them in good stead for Summer Arts.

## GEORGE BRIDGEWATER HEADS TO INSTITUTE OF THE ARTS BARCELONA

Following his outstanding performance in his A-Level Drama & Theatre qualification, George Bridgewater (12JST) will be continuing his education a little further afield than most - Spain, to be exact. We were delighted to learn that George has earned a place at the Institute of the Arts Barcelona (IAB) in September.

George first learned of IAB through a summer course that he completed there after his GCSEs. He loved it so much that following the conclusion of his A-Levels, he managed to get an audition. He had to perform two Shakespeare



George (centre) during his A2 drama performance. he spends his summer brushing up on his Spanish.

monologues; he did extracts from 'The Tempest' and 'Dunsinane', the latter of which was his AS-Level Drama piece (see the 2014-15 Annual Review). He obviously made a great impression, as he was swiftly offered a place! We hope

We wish George the best of luck, and look forward to updates from the beach over the next year!

## 'BLUE/ORANGE'

For the performing arts BTEC, it is expected that students attend the theatre in order to broaden their knowledge and understanding of live drama. To that end, on Tuesday 21 June Mr McDonnell and Miss Dubell took the cohort to the Young Vic for a performance of Joe Penhall's gripping play 'Blue/Orange'.

It was a stunning production, with only three actors in the company. Students were particularly impressed with the 'in the round' staging technique as well as the intensity of the performances from the lead actors. The play deals with some complex themes regarding racial identity and mental illness, and the group really engaged with these ideas and were more than willing to discuss them at length afterwards! Everyone agreed that the play had really helped them to understand about live performance.





Mateeullah does us proud in the regional final!

## JACK PETCHEY SPEAK OUT! CHALLENGE

This year, the school has once again take part in the Jack Petchey Speak Out! Challenge. This gives our Year 10 Gifted & Talented students the opportunity to refine and hone their public speaking skills. It began in the Autumn Term with a day-long workshop in the Sixth Form Study Room, where the students were taught some exemplar public speaking techniques and given the opportunity to practice and then receive critique. Six students from this workshop were chosen to take part in the school final - Farhad Ahmed (10B), Deven Clarke (10E), Mateeullah Kakar (10A), Qaiser Khan (10F), Tim Volle (10F) and Kareem Zeido (10B).

The school final took place in room 140 to an audience of students in Year 7 and 8. The three judges - Miss Hannon, Mr Milligan and Miss Cox - had a very tough decision to make as the students each gave speeches of 2-3 minutes in length on a variety of engaging topics. It was great to see students engaging with some really important issues, and the points they made were very eloquent and measured. The eventual winner was Mateeullah Kakar for his speech on 'Dreams', and he progressed to the regional stage of the competition.

This stage took place at Chiswick School on Monday 25 January, bringing together fifteen students from schools across the borough. The event was compered by our very own Max Lundlack-Orr (11C), who took part in this very stage last year! Mateeullah spoke dynamically about the environment, an extremely pertinent topic. Although he didn't quite make it through to the national stage, he certainly did the school proud with the quality of his speaking. Well done, Mateeullah!



Our school competitors.

## DEBATE MATE

We were delighted to take advantage of the Debate Mate scheme again for our Gifted & Talented students this year. The organisation runs after-school debating clubs across the country, sending in specially-trained university students to teach and tutor the students in the art of debating! We have found that students taking part in the programme see substantial increases in their speaking and listening skills as well as their engagement with school. Co-ordinated in school by Miss Cox, Miss

Sawbridge and Miss Shukla, this year has seen some great debating results.

After the initial meeting, over 70 students expressed an interest in taking part - a phenomenal response! Over the course of the year, there was a very large number of regular attendees in Years 7-10. With a lot of the core debaters from previous years no longer able to take part, there was a lot of new blood this year, but the boys rose to the challenge with enthusiasm.

We once again competed in the Urban Debate League, with the school hosting the first round on Wednesday 29 January. The boys competed against Viliers School, Ealing, winning six of eight debates. They discussed issues such as education and advertising, and performed

admirably considering this was their first 'live' debate.

In the second round, we went to Viliers on Wednesday 2 March, and excelled themselves to the extent that we placed in the top 40 schools in the country! Not only that, but we are now one of the top 30 schools in the London area. This is an absolutely outstanding achievement, and everyone here was thoroughly proud of the boys for putting in the effort to prepare after school for weeks ahead of the debates. You could not tell at all that many of the students involved had minimal debating experience before this year!

On Wednesday 20 April, the boys visited the University of Westminster for the Debate Mate Cup. They performed very well, with each of the three teams winning at least one of their debates. We were thrilled to also be presented with the award for top attendance in London schools. We hope that the boys push on next year and continue to develop their debating prowess.



Students after their commendable performance in the Debate Mate Cup, alongside Miss Cox.



Above: One of the Year 7 and 8 groups receives their feedback tutorial with the PhD student, and right: Year 9 graduates at SOAS.



# BRILLIANT CLUB

We were pleased to offer some of our Gifted & Talented students the exciting opportunity to take part in the Brilliant Club scheme once again this year. The aim of the programme is to widen access to top university for high-achieving pupils in Years 7-10, and to give them a small taste of university education. This is achieved by the Brilliant Club sending a PhD student into school to deliver six weeks of university-style tutorials. The tutor offers one-to-one assistance to students as they write an extended essay on their subject, which are graded at university levels (First Class, Upper Second Class, and so on) at a Key Stage above where students are working.

These essays are not easy, and are designed to remove students from their comfort zone, with the word count at 1500 words (Years 7 and 8) and 2000 words (Years 9 & 10). It was great to see

students thriving under this challenge, with a staggering seventeen students earning First Class Honours for their work - the top grade. Those students are listed right. For comparison, three students earned Firsts in the previous year.

As part of the scheme, students were able to visit a number of prestigious universities across the country, including King's College London and SOAS. The boys took part in campus tours and study skills sessions that gave them a small taste of what university life may be like. Our data shows that following these visits, students are much keener to go to university, and are also much more aware of the processes involved. Well done to every single student who took part in the Brilliant Club this year.

### YEAR 7 AND 8

- WALEED ALDILLAMI (8B)
- NATHANIEL BUENDIA (7E)
- ELLIOTT CULLING (7D)
- JUDE MADDOCK-YOUNGS (8A)
- SAMUEL NIXON (8D)
- ARMAAN SACHDEVA (7C)
- RAUL SHAH (7C)
- MOHAMMED SHEIKHNOOR (8E)
- JACK SHIELS (8D)
- THOMAS SKINNER (8F)
- JOSIAH WILSON KEPPLER (8A)
- LARS-LEANDER VOLLE (8C)

### YEAR 9 AND 10

- JOHN ALVARAN (9E)
- ALEC BRUNDLE (9A)
- ALI NASIRI (9F)
- RUHUL-AMIN AHMED (9C)
- DANIEL VAKILI (9F)

**Ross McQueen**

*A Love Poem to a Monster (based on Shakespeare's Sonnet 130)*

*Her eyes as bright and big as a star;  
 Hair so thick it looks like it's charred  
 The monster's teeth come out so far  
 And her claws are sharp and scarred.  
 Her eyes are all strange and crossed;  
 A body as curved as a roundabout  
 And toes all cold like frost;  
 And a voice that sounds like a shout.*



## 'CHELSEA'S CHOICE'

On Thursday 15 October, travelling drama company Alter-Ego Productions came into school to deliver a powerful play to Year 9 students. The performance - titled 'Chelsea's Choice' - dealt with hard-hitting issues such as cyber-bullying, online safety and sexual exploitation, and was immensely powerful.

It told the story of a 15-year-old girl whose life fell apart due to a few bad choices and trusting the wrong people. It was revealed at the end that it was a true story, and the Year 9 students were suitably affected by this poignant piece. They were given the opportunity to take part in a question-and-answer session afterwards, and some excellent questions were asked about the topics raised in the play.

Well done to the students for the maturity that they demonstrated during this piece. Students looked into these themes in more depth during their PSHCE sessions this year. You can read more about the production at [www.alteregocreativesolutions.co.uk/chelseas-choice/](http://www.alteregocreativesolutions.co.uk/chelseas-choice/)

## PARMEET SINGH

Parmeet Singh is a former student who left Isleworth & Syon two years ago; he is now an entrepreneur who has set up an e-commerce branch of his father's business - a business which turned over £6.5 million last year. On Monday 23 November, he came back to school to talk to our Year 10 Business & Enterprise students.

Here is Azaan Khan's (10D) report.

*Parmeet Singh came back to our school to discuss what it is like to run your own business in the real world. Meeting Mr Singh was a real inspiration; he told us how he now runs his father's business and told us how hard it is to run your business.*

*Mr Singh told us that he and his business was mostly busy during the Christmas holidays, selling a variety of Christmas consumer items such as Christmas lights and decorations. His business buys products and consumer items from other franchises and businesses, and then sells them on to make profit out of the stock.*

*It was interesting to hear that being his own boss is hard because there is so much paperwork that he has to do for his business, and that he barely gets any time to himself. He works for hours on end every day for the majority of the week, to make sure that his business is in good shape.*

A huge thank you to Parmeet for giving up the time to come and talk to the students.



Students investigate Isleworth!

## GEOGRAPHY STUDENTS EXPLORE LOCAL SURROUNDINGS

At the start of December, our Year 8 geography students were given the opportunity to venture out of the classroom and complete some local fieldwork - pleasingly, all of the students jumped at the opportunity for some hands-on learning. The boys travelled down the hill to explore the shops along the London Road, answering a series of questions about the local businesses that reside down there.

Students were tasked with going into the shops and asking questions to the owner, which they did respectfully and politely. The boys accumulated some great data, which they then took back to school and discussed. Well done to the boys for their conduct.

## POETRY BY HEART

At the end of the Autumn Term, the English department once again organised a Poetry by Heart competition in school. This is a nationwide initiative aimed at students in Key Stage 4, with students having to recite a poem that they have learned, in front of an assembled audience of staff and their peers. There was a lot of fantastic competitors this year, but one clear winner - Zack Taylor (11C), who gave an outstanding recitation of 'Sing a Song for a Lad that is Gone' by Robert Louis Stevenson. Aadi Mudhar (9B) finished second, while Ayub Suggulle (10C) finished in third place. This result meant that Zack progressed to the West London final, which took place in February at the Paul Robeson Theatre. Zack recited



Zack Taylor performed fantastically well at the regional final.

'Ozymandias' by Percy Bysshe Shelley and 'The Second Coming' by WB Yeats. He narrowly missed out on qualifying for the national finals, but the judges were immensely impressed with Zack's performance.

Following some impressive poetry readings in class, the department also hosted a Key Stage 3 competition for students in Years 7 and 8. Getting up and speaking in front of a crowd is no mean feat, and yet the students absolutely rose to the challenge! The winners were Albert Campling (7F) and Kousthub Kaivar (8D). It was a pleasure to watch all of the students give so much passion and commitment into their readings. Afterwards, Miss Hannon said, "Poetry by Heart is a wonderful initiative which gets young people thinking about the power of poetry and of language; we would love to see more students getting involved next year!"



Our Year 7 winner - Albert Campling.

## 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL'

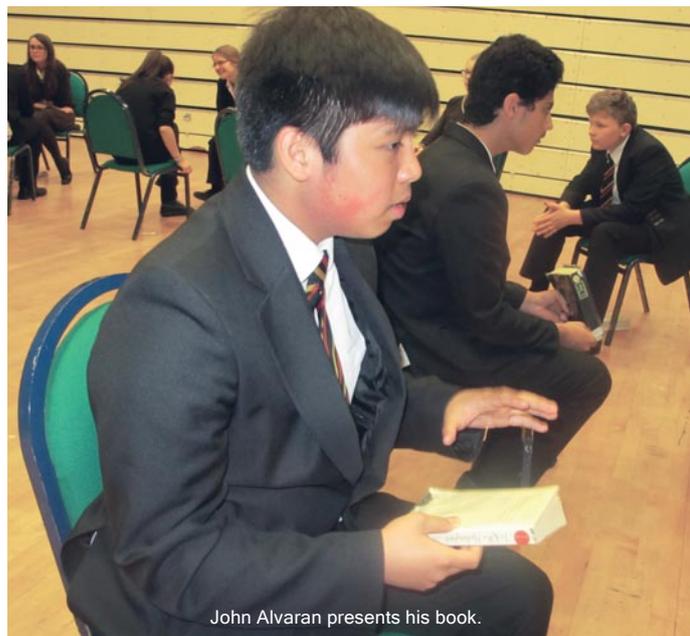
This year, the English department has organised a number of trips to the theatre, as a means of expanding students' learning outside of the classroom and increase their understanding of the texts that they are studying. Many of these students have never been to see live theatre, so these visits have an added cultural bonus!

On Wednesday 16 December, Miss Hannon and Miss Breach took sixty Year 10 students to see a production of Charles Dickens' classic 'A Christmas Carol' at the Rose Theatre, Kingston. The response was overwhelmingly positive, with students commenting afterwards that they already felt that they knew the text more intimately having seen it performed!

## 'ROMEO + JULIET'

On Friday 12 February, Miss Cox took over fifty Year 10 students for a performance of 'Romeo + Juliet' at the Orange Tree Theatre, Richmond. The students are studying the text as part of their GCSE course, and so this was a fantastic way to increase their understanding of Shakespeare's themes. The boys were very responsive to the way that the play was staged and performed, and expressed much enthusiasm during the trip home!

## HOUNSLOW SPEED READ



John Alvaran presents his book.

On Wednesday 3 February, Ms Squires took a group of keen readers to Hounslow's Paul Robeson Theatre for the annual Speed Read competition, hosted by the Hounslow Library Service. The event brought together several schools from the London Borough of Hounslow, and was compered by poet and storyteller Tony Dallas.

For the Speed Read, students were given just one minute to talk about their favourite book in a series of one-to-one chats with other students, 'pitching' their book in an attempt to persuade the other person to read it. During the event, all present were very impressed with our boys' pitches; it was clear that they understood their texts inside and out, and had a great passion for the book they were discussing. At the end of the two-hour session, everyone was asked which book they were most interested to read. A huge well done to John Alvaran (9E), who was given the award for Best Presentation for his pitch of Harper Lee's 'To Kill a Mockingbird'.

Afterwards, John said, "Speed Read 2016 is a great experience where I felt very welcomed into a room filled with young minds that love to read as much as I do. This experience just goes to show that reading a book helps you interact with other people of the community as you share common interests and passions." Well done to everyone involved!

## BUSINESS STUDENTS VISIT THE SKY ACADEMY

On Monday 22 February, Miss Davies took twenty Year 12 BTEC Business students to the Sky Academy in Osterley for a day jam-packed with business-themed activities. The aim was to inspire the students and get them thinking about the different ways that Sky functions as a business.

The boys began with a tour of all of the Sky studios contained in the Osterley campus, including Sky Sports News and Sky News. The students absolutely loved seeing these sets first-hand, especially the gallery where the director sits. They were given an in-depth look into how these rolling news programmes are organised and created, and it's fair to say that the boys were very impressed!

There were a number of students from other schools present during the day, and all groups had the task of creating a brand new TV show, mapping out different ideas and concepts and then presenting them in groups. The boys were also asked to design a new Sky product and service and consider how they would finance and market it. Some of the concepts were absolutely outstanding!

The cohort was also given the opportunity to try out some of Sky's more cutting-edge technology. They spent some time at a careers wall, where students were given iPads and had to scan items on the wall to get valuable careers information. The highlight of the day for many students, though, was the Virtual Reality headset, which everybody loved - even if there were a few stumbles along the way as they got used to the new surroundings! All in all, it was a great day, and Miss Davies was effusive in her praise of the students for their conduct throughout.



## LITERACY & NUMERACY EVENING

The Spring Term Isleworth Association event was the Literacy & Numeracy Evening, held in the school hall for its second year on Tuesday 8 March. Hosted by Mrs Clayton (Assistant Headteacher - Literacy) and Mr Stoddart (Assistant Headteacher - Numeracy), the evening was designed for Year 7 students and parents/carers.

The event was well-attended and was a great success, giving lots of helpful advice and guidance for how students can develop their literacy and numeracy skills, and how those two disciplines are embedded into the curriculum throughout the school. The full pack of resources was posted to the school website after the event, for those who were not able to make it.

## MEET THE AUTHOR:



### CAROLINE LAWRENCE

Our 'Meet the Author' events are a fantastic opportunity for students from across the school to find out more about the process of writing. For World Book Day, a small group of Year 7 boys visited the Paul Robeson Theatre for an illuminating talk with author Caroline Lawrence.

Caroline specialises in historical fiction for children, and talked in depth about her love of history. She also talked heavily about the process of writing a novel, and how she breaks novels down into 'chapter outlines' to get a clear sense of story. After the talk, Caroline spent time with the boys answering questions on a one-to-one basis, as well as signing their books.

Ben Rawsthorne (7A) said afterwards, "I thought that the Meet the Author trip was very inspirational. I learned many helpful tips on how to write successful stories, which I feel will be very beneficial." Read some more feedback from students below.



### ANTHONY MCGOWAN

Our next 'Meet the Author' event took place on Tuesday 15 March 2016, as we gave a warm welcome to author Anthony McGowan. He spoke to the whole of Year 8 during the hour-long session. Anthony is known for the humour in his stories, which often deal with unfunny subject matters (such as the concept of hell, for instance). This contrast, Anthony explained, is what appeals to him when writing - finding that balance between subject matter and tone.

During his talk, Anthony did several readings from his books, including 'Henry Tumour' (a book told from the point of view of a tumour) and 'The Knife that Killed Me'. Anthony discussed how he often uses past memories and puts them into his books. Following his readings, Anthony took questions from the audience; one particular highlight was when he explained (jokingly) that his inspiration for writing was that he was rubbish at everything else!

There were about twelve questions asked in total, and all of them were very insightful indeed. After his talk, Anthony stayed to answer some more questions and sign some books. Response to the event was overwhelmingly positive, and Anthony was a witty and engaging guest. We thank him for giving his time to come and speak with the students.

## FEEDBACK

What was your overall response to the talk?

*"I think that this event was entertaining and very beneficial for my creative writing skills in English. The talk really helped me think about what I should be writing in the stories that I might write when I become older."*

**Jason Zingapan (7C)**

*"I think [the event] has given an even bigger interest in books and made me want to become an author."*

**Imran Majid (7A)**

*"I think that the event was great."*

**Tinashe Chituku (7C)**

In what ways do you feel that the 'Meet the Author' talks are beneficial to you?

*"I feel that they are beneficial to me because they inspire me to read a new genre of books."*

**Tomasz Papior (7B)**

*"They give me an idea of how the author thinks and feels towards their creativity and imagination."*

**Mansoor Ismail (7C)**

*"It gives you a wide variety of book ideas to read."*

**Jude Collie (7E)**



Students present their favourite book scene.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

This year's World Book Day fell on Wednesday 3 March, and we commemorated the day in school in a number of ways. In Design & Technology, Miss Jheeta invited students to build a scene from their favourite book using cardboard and crepe paper - as you can see from the images above, students did a fantastic job!

Miss Hannon in the English department asked students to write book reviews in a number of categories, which then took pride of place on the classroom wall. Students were asked to think about books that transported them, thrilled them, made them laugh, and changed the way they think (amongst other categories), and it was a pleasure to read about how these books had altered their perceptions!

Meanwhile, the humanities, mathematics and science departments displayed teachers' favourite novels and recommended texts for independent learning, encouraging students to embrace reading as a tool for enhancing knowledge. That really gets to the root of what World Book Day is about, and it was fantastic to see so many students reading independently during breaktime and lunchtime.

## STORYTELLING AT WORPLE

At Isleworth & Syon, we really believe that reading regularly can greatly enrich a student's development. This year, we have also launched a Storytelling scheme for a selection of our junior students in Years 7-9, equipping them with the necessary skills to tell stories in an imaginative and interesting way. On Friday 26 February, a group of keen readers from the scheme visited the local Worples Primary School to read some stories to the Year 1 pupils, as well as talking to some Year 4 students about their favourite books.

Our students did a fantastic job of getting the Year 1 pupils involved in the stories, and the boys and girls were absolutely enraptured throughout. It was clear that the Isleworth & Syon students had a great passion for stories, and this came across throughout the morning. They did an excellent job, and should be commended for showing the courage to get up and speak to the group - something that certainly isn't easy!



Jake Bowden (9E), Stanley Wheeler-Kemp (7F) and Tinashe Chituku (7C) read their story to the children.

## STUDENT INVESTOR CHALLENGE

During the Autumn and Spring Terms, a group of Year 10 business students - Josh Bavin (10B), Sidhant Shori (10B) and Alfie Small (10D) - entered the Student Investor Challenge. This nationwide competition presents a simulation of the stock market, with students given simulated money and asked to decide what shares to buy. The top 500 teams in the UK with the best portfolio qualified for the semi-final. The boys did really well and did indeed place in the top 500 - a particularly impressive feat considering that many of the competitors were from private schools.

For the semi-final, students were given specific companies and asked to predict the end price on each Friday, gaining more points the closer they got. Although the boys did not proceed to the final, they gave a fantastic showing and were a credit to the school throughout. Afterwards, they remarked that taking part in the competition had really encouraged an interest in markets, and business and economics more generally, which should serve them well as they move into Year 11.

## ROBOTICS CLUB

Following its successful launch last year, Mr Elliston once again ran a Robotics Club during 2015-16. The club is aimed at students in Year 7 who have an interest in robotics and programming, and it was great to see a core group of students attending every week. Mr Elliston started by introducing the concept of robotics, which immediately got the students' attention! From there, students were given a build-your-own LEGO robot kit, and were tasked with assembling the robot. On top of this, students were given a range of sensors, such as light, movement, sound, and ultrasonic (distance). Each of these sensors, when deployed effectively, can make the robot behave in different ways, and the students had great fun testing all the permutations.

The overall mission of the club was to get the robots to adapt to the environment that they were in, eventually simulating clearing rocks from a lunar surface. It was a pleasure to witness the boys throwing themselves into the task, using computer software to send commands to the robots and witnessing the results. It's clear that there is a lot of talent within this group - perhaps we have unearthed the next generation of engineers! Well done to the students for their hard work.



## YEAR 10 GEOGRAPHY FIELD TRIP

A big part of the GCSE Geography class is the opportunity to get out of the classroom and into the field, to study geographical elements and discuss their results. To that end, Miss Lawler and the geography department took 74 students to Studland Bay for a field trip as part of their coursework, from Monday 16 - Wednesday 18 May.

On the first day, students walked a five-and-a-half mile round trip, from Studland Beach to Old Harry's Rocks. Upon reaching the top of the rock, the boys looked at landmarks, primarily focusing on coastal landforms and arrangements. Tuesday was a particularly long day, as students surveyed three beaches, discussing the conflicts between management and stakeholders. Students were also responsible for surveying local residents for their opinions too - a task that some obviously relished more than others! It was great to see everyone getting involved and asking some really insightful questions in a polite and mature way.

It was a great trip, with students really throwing themselves into the fieldwork. Hopefully this will bear dividends when their coursework marks are released!

## STUDENTS IN THE DOCK DURING MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION

During the Autumn Term, Ms Hemings organised our participation in the Bar Mock Trial Competition, inviting students in Years 10 and 11 to take part. This was our first year taking part in the scheme, and students performed very admirably. It began with some practice sessions in school, with students taking on different roles such as barrister, court clerk,

or member of the jury. Students had two cases they had to learn, and even had the privilege of a real professional lawyer coming into school to watch them rehearse.

Towards the end of the term, the boys travelled with Miss Hannon and Mr Nowicki to Snaresbrook Crown Court, where they competed against other London schools. In the competition, the boys had to run the trial, with one school taking on the role of the prosecution and the other, the defence. We were really proud of the boys for their performance amidst tough competition. The students certainly seemed to enjoy themselves, with several inspired to further investigate the prospect of a career in law.

# UK MATHS CHALLENGE

We have once again entered the UKMT Maths Challenge, with 143 students taking part across the three challenges - Junior (Year 8), Intermediate (Year 9) and Senior (Year 12). This is an annual competition organised by the UK Maths Trust (UKMT), designed to provoke students' interest in mathematics through multiple-choice papers. The challenge attracts over 600,000 entries each year, from over 4,000 schools and colleges across the UK.

Out of those 143 students, over a third were awarded a medal, be that Gold, Silver and Bronze. The full list of medal-winners is included below. The Senior Challenge was first, taking place on Thursday 5 November; Gurpreet Sagoo (12TBI) and

Charlie Gilchrist (13TBI) gained the best scores in Years 12 and 13 respectively. In the Intermediate Challenge (Thursday 4 February), James Pusey (9E) was Best in Year, while Anass El Alwani (8C) scooped the Best in Year prize for the Junior Challenge, which took place on Thursday 28 April.

In total, our Junior participants achieved two Gold, twelve Silver and ten Bronze awards - an outstanding result. Our Intermediate competitors achieved three Silver and eight Bronze, while the Seniors earned six Silvers and ten Bronze. Well done to each and every one of the students who took part in the challenge.

## Junior

### Gold

Anass EL ALWANI (8C) [Best in Year]  
Jack SHIELS (8D)

### Silver

Mohamed ABUGHRIS (8E)  
Zohaib CHAUDHRI (8F)  
Lazar DEKIC (8B)  
Mustafa ELHASSAN (8E)  
Theodore GOODMAN (8E)  
Max JENKINS (8C)  
Laxman JEYARAJASINGAM (8F)  
Samuel NIXON (8D)  
Jakub POSKROP (8A)  
Hussain QURASHI (8D)  
Charlie RYAN-EDWARDS (8A)  
Joseph WHITTAKER (8F)

### Bronze

Waleed ALDILLAMI (8B)  
Thomas BEAGLEY (8D)  
Benjamin FRYE (8C)  
Myles HARRIS (8C)  
Joshua JULLADO (8D)  
Ahmed KALAIR (8E)  
Archie MCGLYNN (8F)  
Mohamad SHEIKHNOOR (8E)  
Taran SYAN (8F)  
Harry WELLS (8E)

## Intermediate

### Silver

Lucas MCPHERSON (9B)  
James PUSEY (9E) [Best in Year]  
Daniel VAKILI (9F)

### Bronze

Munir AHMADI (9C)  
Ruhul-Amin AHMED (9C)  
Kiran BHURTUN (9C)  
Bilal BUKHARI (9C)  
Alfie DENNIS (9E)  
Faraaz KHAN (9B)  
Ali NASIRI (9F)  
Diallo WILLIAMS (9A)

## Senior

### Silver

Charlie GILCHRIST (13TBI) [Best in Year 13]  
Firdous HUSSAIN (12RON)  
Tadas KAZIUKONIS (13TBI)  
Varis KHAN (13RON)  
Aman PATEL (13RON)  
Gurpreet SAGOO (12TBI) [Best in Year 12]

### Bronze

Abdifatah ABDI (13RON)  
Furqan AHMAD (13TBI)  
Dylan CARRUTHERS (12TBI)  
Harith HAWAS (12TBI)  
Adhiyan JEEVATHOL (12TBI)  
Myan KELLAY (12RON)  
Jonathan MARTINEZ DA CRUZ (12TBI)  
Maxwell OMONDI (12TBI)  
Lahibullah QURAIISHI (12TBI)  
Santhosh VETTICHELIVAN (12ANO)



# POETRY SLAM WINNERS AGAIN!



The boys acted out their poems as part of the session.

We were delighted on Wednesday 8 June, as Isleworth & Syon won the Hounslow Poetry Slam event for the second year in succession. The event, hosted by the Hounslow Library Service, took place at the Paul Robeson Theatre. A talented group of Year 7 poets were invited to take part, amongst several other borough schools.

The event was hosted by renowned slam poet Adam Kammerling. Slam poetry is a specific genre of poetry that focuses on the spoken word. It is certainly an acquired skill, but our boys took it with aplomb, eventually devising their own poem (shown right). After a tense competition, our boys were judged the winners, and they took home a shiny cup!

The boys were thrilled with their experience. Albert Campling (7F) said: "Loved it - I always enjoy trying new writing styles," while Jawaid Shamsse (7D) went with a simple "it was awesome!" and Michael Ehinze (7A) described it as "exhilarating and breathtaking". Congratulations to all of the boys Albert Campling, Jawaid Shamsse, Jude Collie (7D), Stanley Wheeler-Kemp (7F), Ben Rawsthorne, Jarod Allard, Michael Ehinze and Jason Zingapan!



The victorious students pose with their trophy!

*I am from a city of culture and diversity  
I am from a city of financial and economic depth  
I am from a huge metropolis.  
However, I am also from a city so overcrowded that people struggle  
to find homes.  
I am from a city so popular that its truth and lies are hidden deep  
beneath its surface.  
I am from London.*

*I am made of lies hidden from reach  
I am made from issues that haunt my city  
I am made from the pollution that weakens my hope of an eco-  
friendly world  
I am made of London.*

*I have lost everything - my home, my money, my belongings  
I have lost so many things I practically live on nothing  
I have lost the will to live  
I have no pride  
I have lost everything I might consider suicide  
I have lost London.*

*I have found that deep beneath the negatives of a corrupt city there is  
always a positive  
I have found that the path to success lies right in front of you.  
I have found that happiness is the key to the enjoyment of life  
And now that I know that hope is what I need  
I can start living anew.*

Written and performed by Michael Ehinze (7A), Ben Rawsthorne (7A) and Jason Zingapan (7C)

# FRENCH STUDENTS GET A TASTE OF FRENCH CUISINE

Towards the end of the Summer Term, Miss Howard and Mrs Lane in the MFL department have given their Year 9 French students the chance to sample some French cuisine. First, the classes decamped to the food technology kitchens to make croque monsieur. Some of the students had never cooked before, but all of the boys rose to the challenge and produced some very tasty dishes! These were judged by CucinA head chef Michael, who critiqued the dishes and suggested areas for improvement. The overall winner was judged to be Drew Mills (9B).

A week later, Mrs Lane brought in some French delicacies for students to try, including some French cheeses, snacks, and the pièce de resistance - snails. The look on the boys' faces as the snails were brought in was an absolute picture! However, it was great to see almost everyone get up to try some snail, with many commenting that it didn't taste as bad as they expected... some even enjoyed it! This was a great way for students to engage with French culture outside of their study of the language.



Paul Fanning (9A) tries a snail!



The winner - Drew Mills - with chef Michael.

# YEAR 9 VISIT YPRES

BY MISS SHUKLA, TEACHER OF HUMANITIES

In June, some of our Year 9 boys were very lucky to be able to travel to France and Belgium, in order to visit numerous World War 1 battlefield sites and memorials. This was an excellent opportunity for these boys to practically apply the knowledge from their curriculum outside of the classroom.

Although the journey was long and tiresome, the boys were able to see 'The Jungle,' the refugee camp in Calais, and receive a mini-lesson from Mr Evans about the plight of refugees. On day one, we took part in the Last Post at Menin Gate, where two of our best dressed and most respectful boys placed the school memorial wreath, along with many others, to commemorate the soldiers that battled in the First World War from our school. The boys were honoured to walk through the procession with many others to pay their respects.

The next day held much in store for the boys. We were fortunate enough to visit the astounding Vimy Ridge and Theipval memorials as the Battle of the Somme centennial was being commemorated. Not only were the boys able to pay their respects to fellow Isleworthians that had fought in the war, but also experience a taste of trench life. The hardships of the life of a soldier were brought to light for many of the boys, who realised just how difficult the living conditions were, giving them an empathetic insight for the men who fought for either side of the war.

Our final day of the trip brought a sense of reflection as we headed to the 'Coming World Remember Me' project, a scheme created to put the scale of the war into perspective by creating 600,000 clay models to represent the lives lost in Belgium. The boys put a lot of effort and enthusiasm into making their models and were delighted to contribute to such a symbolic mission.

Although worn out, the boys commented on how much they enjoyed the trip, and how much they learned. It was a valuable learning experience where the students could have a hands-on approach to their education, and feel a deeper understanding for those who courageously fought in one of the most iconic wars of the 20th century.

In the trenches!



Above: Students take in one of the memorials.  
Below: The boys take some time to reflect.



# YEAR 7 FLY AWAY WITH 'ALADDIN'

As a reward for their outstanding behaviour during their first time at Isleworth & Syon, selected Year 7 & 8 students were taken to the Paul Robeson Theatre on Thursday 17 December for a special performance of the pantomime 'Aladdin'. The show was performed by the London Contemporary Theatre and the Hounslow Arts Centre, and we were lucky enough to receive free tickets from the centre. It was an outstanding performance; some of the boys' feedback is included below:

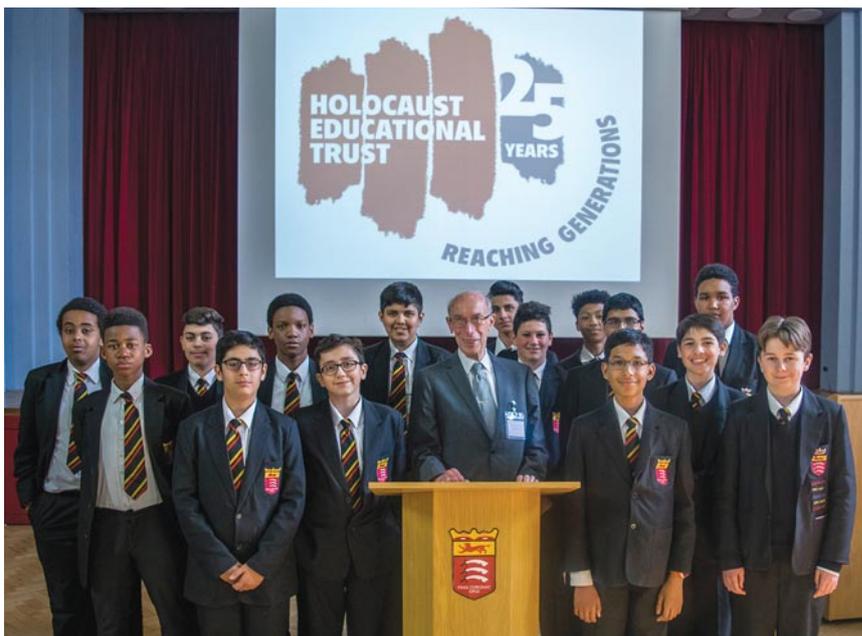
- "The pantomime was good and it was fun to watch. I felt really lucky to watch that." - Kaushik Gandhi (8C)
- I really enjoyed the pantomime when playing the film Aladdin because it was really engaging." - Maseh Abdulwahid (8F)
- "It was great! I couldn't pick a favourite character or scene because I loved the whole play." - Khryan Hooghan (7B)
- "I enjoyed the pantomime a lot and I thoroughly enjoyed my trip to go watch it." - Ben Rawsthorne (7A)

## YEAR 9 VISITED BY HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

On Thursday 28 April, we were privileged to welcome George Vulkan into school. Mr Vulkan survived the Holocaust, and came in to talk to Year 9 about his experiences at that time. The Holocaust forms a large part of the Year 9 history curriculum, and so it was fascinating for Year 9 to hear a first-hand account of what life was like for Mr Vulkan.

First, Mr Vulkan had lunch with some of our A-Level History students. He brought along a journal containing several artefacts from his past, including schoolbooks which he was forced to emblazon with the Nazi swastika symbol. The boys asked some great questions during the informal conversation.

Then, Mr Vulkan headed to the hall to address Year 9. He told his sobering and poignant story, giving some vivid details about life in Austria during the Nazi reign. He discussed the segregation, and how he, as a Jewish man, was forbidden from speaking with the Christian children and forced to sit at the back of the class. Eventually, Mr Vulkan was expelled from his school and forced to go to a separate school for Jewish boys.



Robert Vulkan with all of the boys who asked questions.

Year 9 listened intently as Mr Vulkan discussed how he moved to Britain in February 1939. At the end of his talk, they were given the opportunity to ask questions, which they did in a very mature fashion. These events are extremely important in bringing the curriculum to life, engaging the students with real-world stories instead of second-hand resources from a textbook or the internet. All of the boys came away from the talk with an increased understanding of the magnitude of the Holocaust's horrors, and we would like to thank the Holocaust Educational Trust for organising the event, and Mr Vulkan for giving his time to come and talk to us.

## KEW NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Monday 27 June saw Mr Nowicki take a small group of Year 9 students to the National Archives in Kew for a Study Day. The boys were selected because they had chosen to take GCSE History next year, and so this day was intended as a springboard for them as they head towards Key Stage 4.

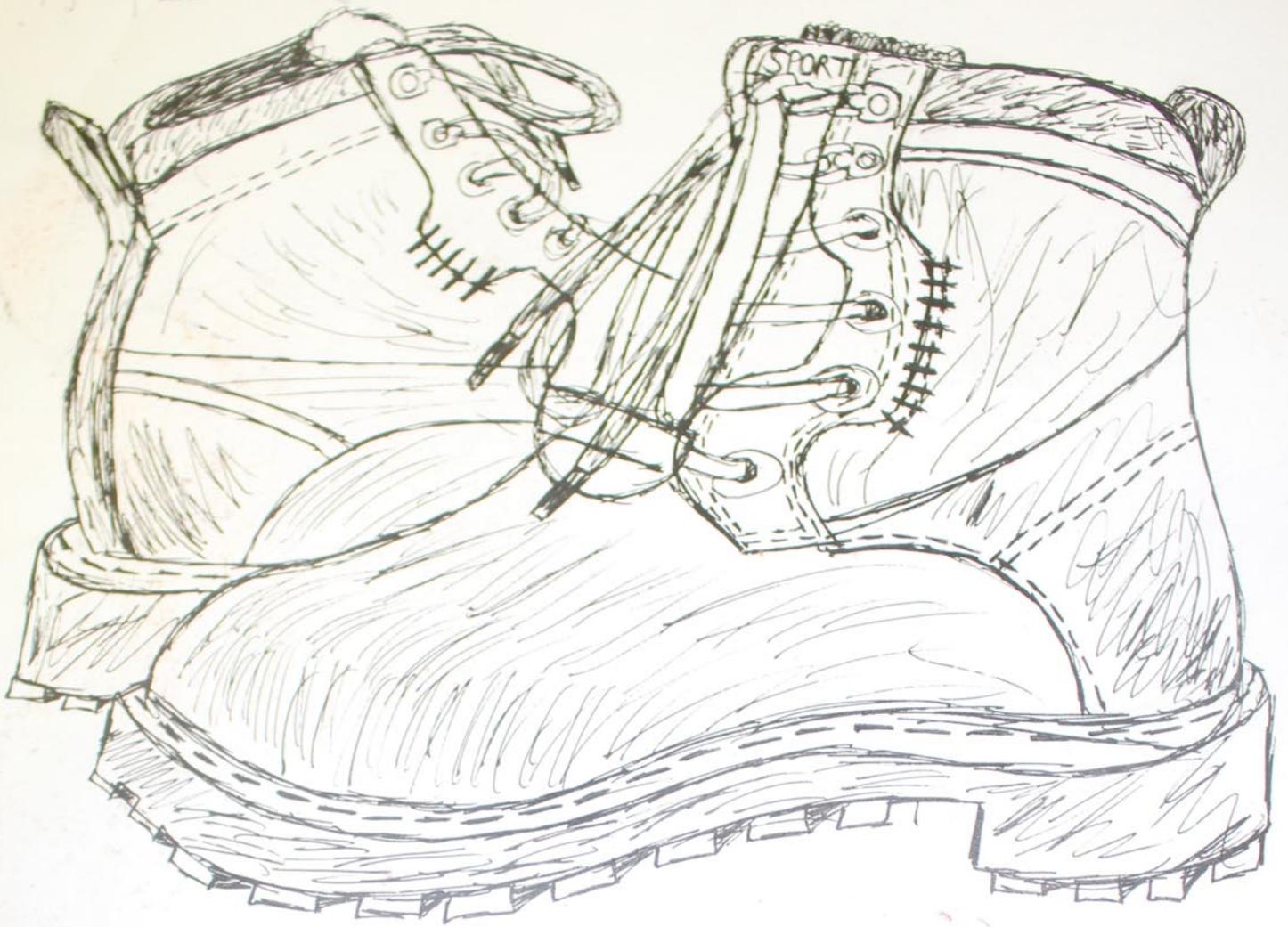
The Day was designed to commemorate the Battle of the Somme (1 July 1916), and this workshop invited our boys to investigate primary sources from the battle. The boys were given the opportunity to read some first-hand personal accounts of what happened on that fateful day, as well as war records that detailed the events that transpired.

This was an excellent opportunity to develop historical skills and think as historians think. It is completely different from the classroom style of teaching, with students responsible



Students investigate sources.

for using their own initiative and skills of research. The boys were even given the opportunity to be creative, with some writing poems. The leaders of the day were extremely impressed with the boys, live-streaming some of their work on Twitter! It was, in all, a fantastic day, with the boys coming out of their comfort zone and learning first-hand about sources and investigation.





## KEY STAGE 3 AWARDS EVENING

It was a pleasure to welcome a fantastic turnout of parents/carers and other family members to our annual Key Stage 3 Awards Evening on Tuesday 12 July. This event celebrates the continued successes from our students at KS3 (Years 7-9) throughout 2015-16. There was a truly celebratory mood in the school hall as we celebrated the sustained hard work, dedication and attainment from the students.

It was a delight to present Academic & Pastoral Awards to each year group in turn. Mr Dargan first introduced Year 7, where 27 students picked up awards - some were subject-based, while others were more on the pastoral side. Three students picked up three prizes in total: Nathaniel Buendia (7E), Albert Campling (7F) and Akeel Shah (7D) - a great effort. Mr Dargan revealed that Year 7 were the highest group in the school for predicted attainment, which demonstrates what an excellent transition into secondary school they have had.

He then moved on to the Year 8 awards, with 31 students receiving recognition. Pick of the bunch was Lar-Leander Volle (8C), who picked up FIVE separate awards - art, English, religious education, Brilliant Club and the Pastoral Leader Award. It should also be mentioned that two other students

picked up four individual prizes - Sameh Esmailzadah and Josiah Wilson Kepple (both 8A). Well done to them - we now look to all of our Year 8 students to really push on as they enter the final year of Key Stage 3.

After a brief but excellent musical interlude from Alan Wali (9C) and Sammy Standing (9B) - reprising their outstanding performance from Summer Arts - Mr McAlinden promptly took over the reins for the Year 9 awards, where 33 boys were honoured for a variety of awards. John Drexler Alvaran (9E) won four awards (including the Pastoral Leader Award), while Diallo Williams (9A) picked up three. In total, 91 boys picked up Academic and Pastoral Awards during the evening - each has a different story and has overcome some obstacles along the way. The message from Mr McAlinden and Mr Dargan was for students to use this as a springboard for future success!

There were a series of miscellaneous awards to finish off (full list contained overleaf). 26 boys were given Citizenship Colours, rewarding boys who have shown themselves to be outstanding, model citizens. A series of sports and other miscellaneous cups were also given out - Sammy Standing (9B) won two, the Library Award and the

Music Cup. It was then time for the highlight of the evening, the Headteacher's Cup. First awarded by Mr Ferguson in 2014, this prize is given to the Year 9 student who has demonstrated continued excellence in a variety of fields during their time at Isleworth & Syon. The tension was thick in the air, as Mr Ferguson was the only person in the room who knew the winner's identity! He eventually gave the cup to John Drexler Alvaran. Well done to everyone who won an award - events like this just reiterate and exemplify the outstanding breadth of talent and hard work on display at the school.



John Alvaran wins the Headteacher's Cup.

## KEY STAGE 3 ACADEMIC AND PASTORAL AWARDS

## Year 7

Ahmad Alhasan	Computing
Nathaniel Buendia	Geography, Shackleton House Pastoral Award,
Hamid Butt	The Brilliant Club: STEM
Albert Campling	Food Technology
	Drama, Science, Turner House Pastoral Award
Joshua Cherian	Music
Shyamalan Chidambaram	Science
Tinashe Chituku	Design & Technology, Pastoral Leader Award
Jude Collie	Drama
Elliot Culling	Mathematics, The Brilliant Club: Arts
Michael Ehinze	Brunel House Pastoral Award
Joshua Hixon	French
Khyran Hooghan	Design & Technology
Jake Ince-Moore	Music
Mansoor Ismail	Computing
Jivanjee Jivanjee	Physical Education, Shackleton House Pastoral Award
Ruben Lopes	English
Malih Makame	Food Technology
Dhruval Patel	Turner House Pastoral Award
Ben Rawsthorne	English, Pastoral Leader Award
Aidan Rimmer	Physical Education
Armaan Sachdeva	The Brilliant Club: STEM
Akeel Shah	Art, Science, Brunel House Pastoral Award
Jawaid Shamsse	History
Terrence Stevens	History
Aman Suhaim	Art
Jimmy Winsor-Franklin	French
Jason Zingapan	Mathematics

## Year 8

Faisal Abdi	Food Technology
Maseh Abdulwahid	Turner House Pastoral Award
Humayun Bajwa	Spanish
Thomas Beagley	Science
Zohaib Chaudhri	Turner House Pastoral Award
Erikas Debolskij	Art
Khyle Erese	Shackleton House Pastoral Award
Sameh Esmailzadah	RE, Pastoral Leader Award, The Brilliant Club: Arts
Benjamin Frye	Geography
Theodore Goodman	Shackleton House Pastoral Award
Hubert Grzelazka	Geography
Daniel Hinds	Computing
Bleron Hoxhaj	English
Adil Hussain	Brunel House Pastoral Award
Laxman Jeyarajasingam	Mathematics
Joshua Jullado	Design & Technology
Jack Lewis	History
Philip Lisiewicz	Computing, Brunel House Pastoral Award
Jude Maddock-Youngs	Geography, Science
Archie Mcglynn	Music, Science
Cadell Osborne	History, Physical Education
Wiktor Pelczar	Food Technology
Henry Rathore	Drama
Charlie Ryan-Edwards	Spanish
Fady Shams	Design & Technology
Mohamad Sheikhnoor	French
Jack Shiels	French
Thomas Skinner	French, Mathematics, The Brilliant Club: Arts
Lars-Leander Volle	Art, English, RE, Pastoral Leader Award, The Brilliant Club: STEM
Joseph Whittaker	Physical Education
Josiah Wilson Kepple	Drama, Music, Spanish, The Brilliant Club: Arts

## Year 9

Abdullah Abdullah	Turner House Pastoral Award
Jamil Aden	PSHCE
John Alvaran	English, Geography, Pastoral Leader Award, Gifted and Talented
Omar Ammoune	Physical Education
Silvio Belsito Bright	Computing
Taylor Blakeney	Physical Education, Shackleton House Pastoral Award
Jake Bowden	Drama, Food Technology
Alec Brundle	Brunel House Pastoral Award, Gifted and Talented
Hamza Diriye	French
Christopher Dobson	Physical Education
Patryk Dolecki	Mathematics
Kacper Dzienisik	Design & Technology
Arnav Gupta	Art
Shiva Gupta	Drama
Camaran Hooghan	Pastoral Leader Award
Maxim Kim	Science
Anthony Lewing	Computing, Science
Jonah Manning	Music, PSHCE
Will Millett	Art
Antonio Monteiro	French
Aaditya Mudhar	English
Ali Nasiri	Geography
Che Nicholas	Food Technology
Samuel Norman	Design & Technology
James Pusey	Spanish
Jude Saunders	History
Samuel Standing	Shackleton House Pastoral Award
Maksymilian Szejko	Brunel House Pastoral Award
Daniel Vakili	History, Gifted and Talented
Alan Wali	Music
Alexander Whelan-Mensah	History, PSHCE
Diallo Williams	Geography, Mathematics, Spanish
Montel Williams	Turner House Pastoral Award

## ADDITIONAL AWARDS

## CITIZENSHIP COLOURS (TIES &amp; FLASHES)

Munir Ahmadi	Amritesh Panda
John Alvaran	James Pusey
Mustafa Amiri	Akash Rajagobal
Omar Ammoune	Jude Saunders
Silvio Belsito Bright	Daanyaal Sheikh
Taylor Blakeney	Samuel Standing
Alec Brundle	Maksymilian Szejko
Camaran Hooghan	James Van Zyl
Daniel Jdid	Alan Wali
Asad Kapadi	Diallo Williams
Shaan Mahal	Max Woolford
Muhammad Miah	Parsa Yaghouti Hassan Kiadeh
Aaditya Mudhar	
Soufian Najeeb	

## SPORTS AWARDS

Javelle Roberts	Basketball Cup
Ryan Peries	Cricket Cup
Alec Brundle	Rugby Cup
Omar Ammoune	Football Shield
Christopher Dobson	Cross-Country Cup
Daanyaal Sheikh	Badminton Cup
Diallo Williams	Weekly Cup - Athletics

## MISCELLANEOUS CUPS

Samuel Standing	Library Award
Bilal Bukhari	Junior Debating Cup
Alec Brundle	Paul McLoughlin Poetry Prize
Ali Nasiri	Bernard Pitts Elocution Cup
Aaditya Mudhar	Drama Cup
Samuel Standing	Music Cup
George Evans	Smallberry Green Cup for Endeavour
Daniel Vakili	Isleworthians (1947) Trophy
John Drexler Alvaran	Headteacher's Cup

# SENIOR AWARDS EVENING

Our Senior Awards Evening is one of the highlights of the school calendar, as we celebrate students in Years 10-13 who have made an outstanding commitment to the culture of success that we aim to foster at Isleworth & Syon. In total, 140 students collected awards on Thursday 22 September. There were a wide range of categories, but each of them were linked by a single factor - they showed great commitment, work ethic and dedication during 2015-2016.

This year, we were pleased to welcome John Edwards as our special guest. John is a former student of Isleworth & Syon (1993-1998) who is now an award-winning architect. His current project is close to his heart, as he is integral to the new teaching block work currently taking place on the school site. He gave a short address at the end of this ceremony, talking about how coming to Isleworth & Syon gave him the skills necessary for success. It was very inspirational for the students listening intently in the audience!

As usual, Ms Simms compered the evening, assisted by Mr Lightfoot and Mr Doyle. We began with the Subject & Pastoral Awards, as a staggering 106 students collected awards across the four year groups. Many students collected multiple prizes, but a special mention must be given to Qaiser Khan (10F) and Gheorghe Rotaru (11E), who each won four prizes. Qaiser also won a music scholarship later in the evening.

During the evening, there were several performances from members of the performing arts department. Before the event started, the audience were treated to a drama department video montage compiled by Curriculum Leader Mr McDonnell, which showed some of the highlights of a fantastic last few years. During the ceremony there were two interludes from the concert band, as they performed 'Pirates of the Caribbean' and 'Star Wars: The Force Awakens' with great aplomb. It was particularly pleasing to see four Year 7 students taking part in only their third week at Isleworth & Syon. David Carter (7F), James Ellard (7B), Matthew Nunan (7F) and Zak Osahn (7B) displayed great courage to perform these difficult pieces in front of a large crowd.

We also gave out a huge swathe of cups and trophies during the evening - the full list is overleaf. A special mention must go to the students who collected two cups each: Ellis Bloom (the Isleworthians (1947) Trophy, as well as joint-winner of the Drama Cup) and Zack Taylor (Paul McLoughlin Poetry Prize and Tranter Cup for Endeavour). Both boys demonstrated outstanding progress and success during their time at the school.

It was then time for the final award, the Headmaster's Cup, presented to the senior student who has demonstrated a prolonged and consistent contribution to the life of the school. This year's recipient was Louis Kelly, an affable and reliable student always willing to help out in a huge variety of ways. Louis now studies at the University of Exeter, and we wish him well.

Congratulations to each and every one of this year's award winners. They have done the school and their families proud.

**See all of our tweets from this event by checking out [#IsleworthAwards](#).**



Special guest John Edwards with Mr Ferguson.



Mr Ferguson announces the Headmaster's Cup winner.

**SUBJECT & PASTORAL AWARDS****YEAR 10**

Arash Afrazeh	Business Studies
Arslaan Ahmad	Shackleton House Award
Jordan Ako	Music
Tarq Aljammal	Economics
Sacha Allen	Media Studies
Ali Al-Skafi	D&T: Electronic Products
Varun Alvakonda	English, History
Deven Clarke	ICT
Ben Crittenden	Art, ICT
Oskari Gibson-Wadsworth	Media Studies
Ali Harb	Physics
Lee Henesy	Art
Joshua Hudnott	Mathematics
Mateeullah Kakar	Chemistry
Tom Keenan	Drama, Pastoral Award Year 10

Kaiser Khan	D&T: Electronic Products, French, Music, Turner House Award
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Kieran Liu	Geography
Theo Mitchell-Smith	Biology, Geography, Spanish

Ayub Mohamed	Media Studies
Faizan Muhammad	Biology
Mubanga Mulenga	Drama
Haleem Pall	French
Samim Rahmani	Chemistry
Sameer Rashid	Brunel House Award, Physics

Tsema Rewane	Physical Education
Sevak Sohi	Physical Education
Ayub Suggulle	History
Alfie Thomas	Business Studies
Jack Torbett	English
Tim-Frederic Volle	Mathematics, Pastoral Award Year 10

**YEAR 11**

Ahmed Abuelmeaza	Art
Iffy Ahmed	Performing Arts
Harry Case	Economics, English, Physical Education

Arun Chadha	History
Wesley Cheung	Art
Miles Clark	Mathematics
Hamza Dhala	Media Studies, Pastoral Award Year 11

Adam Greaves	Music, Shackleton House Award
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Yaseen Hammad	D&T: Electronic Products
Hasseeb Hussain	Biology, ICT, Physics
Charlie Inman	D&T: Food Technology
Michael Jara	Performing Arts
Edrin Kalyango	Business Studies, Geography

Mohan Kumar	Brunel House Award, Economics, History
Manahar Kumar	Turner House Award

Laszlo Kunu	Physical Education
Dilan Lakhani	D&T: Food Technology
Maxim Lundlack-Orr	Music
Omar Mahfoudi	Chemistry
Usman Mahmood	Media Studies
Andi Meta	Physical Education
Charlie Mills	Music
Abdelrahman Moussa	Mathematics
Ryan Nation	Drama
Gheorghe Rotaru	Chemistry, Drama, French, GCSE, Physical Education

Muhammad Sabri	French
Sultan Said	English
Aman Sihra	D&T: Electronic Products
Dylan Sihra	D&T: Electronic Products
Harry Stenholm	Geography
Rafat Uddin	Pastoral Award Year 11, Physical Education

Aman Verma	ICT, Media Studies
Ramneet Virdee	Business Studies
Robbie Whitmore	Biology, Physics, Spanish

**YEAR 12**

Alex Bilbiee	Business Studies, ICT BTEC
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Diogo Da Silva	ICT, Pastoral Award Year 12
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Isaiah Dash	Media Studies
Cara Doyle	Chemistry, Music
Thomas Egan	Art
Finlay Fox	Drama, Media Studies, Performing Arts

Omar Habib	Physical Education
Harith Hawas	Mathematics
Shadnan Ishan	English
Adhiyan Jeevathol	History, Physics
Sophie Lucas	Art, Drama, Performing Arts
Danyal Naidu	English, History
Maxwell Omondi	Mathematics, Pastoral Award Year 12, Physics

Lahibullah Quraishi	Biology, Chemistry
Prince Radhakrishnan	Physical Education
Jocelyn Richman	Art

Gadoffre	
Gurpreet Sagoo	Biology
Taranvir Samra	Business Studies, ICT
Jamie Tilt	Physical Education
Dino Velagic	Media Studies
Samuel Willingham	ICT BTEC

**YEAR 13**

Saleh Ammouna	Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics
Ellis Bloom	Business Studies
George Bridgewater	Drama, History
Matthew Carter	Physics
Lewis Edmund	ICT
Ali Eta	Pastoral Award Year 13
Cameron Fall-Everett	D&T: Electronic Products

Aamir Hussain	English
George King	ICT
Thomas Knox	Biology, Mathematics
Vikrant Mudhar	ICT BTEC
Amelia Offord	Art
Aman Patel	Chemistry
Abhay Rawlings	Physical Education
Rachel Rodipe	Physical Education
Louis Rugg	Media Studies
Umair Shah	Biology
Em Shanahan	Media Studies
George Stow	Geography
Emelio Titus	Geography, History, Pastoral Award Year 13

Kelvin Wong	Business Studies, ICT BTEC
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**SPORTS AWARDS****HIGHER SPORTS LEADER AWARD**

Nopagorn Whitington

**SPIRIT OF DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD**

Kareem Zeido

**DAWES CUP**

Akash Choudhury

**FARAH CUP**

Jacob Canning

**PREM GEORGE BADMINTON CUP**

Sevak Sohi

**BASKETBALL CUP**

Omar Habib

**BOB EDMONDS CRICKET CUP**

Jamie Tilt

**FOOTBALL SHIELD**

Josiah Abraham

**ROBBIE JONES RUGBY CUP**

Lauri Gibson-Wadsworth

**PAUL PAYNE CLUBMAN CUP**

Kamran Anwar

**BARRY GOLDSBY CUP**

Prince Radhakrishnan

**SPECIAL AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION TO SPORT**

Iffy Ahmed

## SUBJECT &amp; PASTORAL AWARDS

## GCSE

Haseeb Hussain  
Manahar Kumar  
Yacin Lakehal  
Omar Mahfoudi  
Conor O'Kelly  
Gheorghe Rotaru  
Abijit Singh  
Harry Stenholm  
Rowan Thwaites  
Ashvin Virdee  
Robbie Whitmore

## A-LEVEL

Saleh Ammouna  
Andy Brown  
Matthew Carter  
Lewis Edmund  
Joseph Formby  
Lauri Gibson-Wadsworth  
Jason Irvine-Coates  
Thomas Knox  
Milan Mistry  
Brandon Mitchell  
Abhay Rawlings  
Rachel Rodipe  
Umair Shah  
Harry Walker  
Nopagorn Whittington  
Charlie Williams  
Kelvin Wong

## GOVERNOR'S AWARDS

Amelia Offord	Art & Design
Lewis Edmund	BTEC ICT
Rachel Rodipe	BTEC Sport
Emelio Titus	Business
Cameron Fall-Everett	D&T: Systems & Control
Jack Takeda	Drama & Theatre Studies
Louis Kelly	English
Olivia Barnes	Geography
Nicholas Ryde	History
Kelvin Wong	ICT
Thomas Knox	Mathematics
Louis Rugg	Media Studies
Louis Rugg	Music
Sachin Jassal	Physical Education
Aman Patel	Science
Umair Shah	Science
Benjamin Vertkin	Science

## PROGRESS AWARDS

Kacper Piasecki	Year 9
Abijit Singh	Year 11
Ashvin Virdee	Year 11
Louis Kelly	Year 13
James McLaughlin	Year 13

## PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Oskar Gibson-Wadsworth	Year 10
Tyler Langan	Year 10
Iffy Ahmed	Year 11
Andrew Kakeeto	Year 11
Zack Taylor	Year 11
Ramneet Virdee	Year 11
Ashley Ward	Year 11
Kieran Alexis	Year 13
Daniel Zapata	Year 13

## PTA SHIELD

9B

## LIBRARY AWARD

Emelio Titus

## VOCATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

Rachel Rodipe

## DAWES WORK SALVER

Diogo Da Silva

## CARILLION WORK EXPERIENCE TROPHY

Tyler Langan

## BEATCREATIVE ENTERPRISE TROPHY

Bart Wieloch

## PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD

Nizar Mneimne

## DRAMA CUP

Ellis Bloom  
George Bridgewater  
Louis Kelly  
Em Shanahan  
Jack Takeda

## JOHN TAYLOR MUSIC CUP

Maxim Lundlack-Orr

## MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Jordan Ako  
Kaiser Khan

## PAUL M'CLOUGHLIN POETRY PRIZE

Zack Taylor

## DEBATING CUP

Amaan Khan

## MR &amp; MRS MORLEY CUP FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING

Yuvraj Assi

## BOSELEY ESSAY CUP

Harry Rumball

## OLD ISLEWORTHIAN'S BOWL

Jahi Laing

## THE ISLEWORTHIAN'S (1947) TROPHIES

Josh Bavin - Senior  
Abhay Rawlings - Sixth Form  
Ellis Bloom - Overall

## CALDICOTT LAKE SCHOLARSHIP

Saleh Ammouna

## TRANTER CUP FOR ENDEAVOUR

Zack Taylor

## JACK CHAPMAN CUP

George Bridgewater

## HEAD BOY AWARD

Thomas Knox

## HEADMASTER'S CUP

Louis Kelly



## COLOURS TIES 2014-2015

Colours can be awarded in a number of areas of school life. The colours take the form of a flash (to be sewn on blazers) or a tie. Ties are awarded for exceptional performance over a period of time and are awarded on one occasion. The award of Colour Ties to first-time recipients, is recorded here.

## ACADEMIC Year 9

ALVARAN, John  
AMIR, Mohammad  
DENNIS, Alfie  
GUPTA, Arnav  
KAPADI, Asad  
KIM, Maxim  
LOGAN, Daniel  
MAHAL, Shaan  
MCPHERSON, Lucas  
MCQUEEN, Ross  
MILLETT, Will  
MUDHAR, Aadi

NAJEEB, Soufian  
NASIRI, Ali  
PUSEY, James  
RAZAGHI, Dara  
SINKEVICIUS, Danielius  
STANDING, Samuel  
WILLIAMS, Diallo  
WILLIAMS, Montel

## Year 10

ALJAMMAL, Tarq  
BRYAN, Max  
CRITTENDEN, Ben  
DABBUR, Hadi  
HAMADNEH, Eamon

JASRA, Adit  
 KENT, Thomas  
 KOZIEL, Kordian  
 McHALE, Cody  
 MWANGI, Ian  
 PALL, Haleem  
 QURAIISHI, Munibullah  
 SAID, Ayyub  
 THOMAS, Alfie  
 WIELOCH, Bartosz

#### Year 11

CLARKE, Jordan  
 DHALA, Hamza  
 GULED, Mohamed  
 LOUIS, Jordan  
 JADOON, Fahd  
 MNEIMNE, Nizar  
 MOUSSA, Abdelrahman  
 SAID, Sultan  
 SEKHON, Aranveer  
 SIHRA, Aman  
 SIHRA, Dylan  
 SINGH, Abijit  
 VARA, Pavan  
 VERMA, Aman

#### Sixth Form

BARNES, Olivia  
 BROWN, Andy  
 GIBSON-WADSWORTH, Lauri  
 HUSSAIN, Aamir  
 IRVINE-COATES, Jason  
 McLAUGHLIN, James  
 MITCHELL, Brandon  
 RAWLINGS, Abhay  
 RODIPE, Rachel  
 WALKER, Harry  
 WHITTINGTON, Nopagorn  
 WILLIAMS, Charlie  
 WONG, Kelvin

#### ARTS

##### Year 9

BERRYMAN, Kendall  
 BUKHARI, Syed Bilal  
 BOWDEN, Jake  
 BRUNDLE, Alec  
 GUPTA, Shiva  
 KIAL, Adam  
 MANNING, Jonah  
 MARRABLE, Cain  
 MILLETT, Will  
 MUDHAR, Aadi  
 MURPHY, Tom  
 STANDING, Samuel  
 STASIK, Jakob  
 WALI, Alan

##### Year 10

AKO, George  
 AKO, Jordan  
 BALTACHI NEJAD, Amir  
 BAVIN, Joshua

HENESY, Lee  
 MUSTAFA, Sameem  
 TORBETT, Jack  
 WIELOCH, Bartosz

#### Year 11

JARA, Michael  
 NATION, Ryan

#### CITIZENSHIP

##### Year 9

AHMADI, Munir  
 ALVARAN, John  
 AMIRI, Mustafa  
 AMMOUNE, Omar  
 BELSITO BRIGHT, Silvio  
 BERRYMAN, Kendall  
 BLAKENEY, Taylor  
 BRUNDLE, Alec  
 HOOGHAN, Camaran  
 JDID, Daniel  
 KAPADI, Asad  
 MAHAL, Shaan  
 MIAH, Muhammad  
 MUDHAR, Aadi  
 NAJEEB, Soufian  
 NASIRI, Ali  
 PANDA, Amritesh  
 PUSEY, James  
 RAJAGOBAL, Akash  
 SAUNDERS, Jude  
 SHEIKH, Daanyaal  
 STANDING, Samuel  
 SZEJKO, Maksymilian  
 VAN ZYL, James  
 WALI, Alan  
 WILLIAMS, Diallo  
 WOOLFORD, Max  
 YAGHOUTI HASSAN KIADEH, Parsa

##### Year 10

AFRAZEH, Arash  
 FAHEEM, Qasid  
 FARAH, Sakaria

##### Year 11

VIRDEE, Ashvin

#### PROGRESS

##### Year 9

ALI, Mohamed  
 ALVARAN, John  
 DIRIYE, Hamza  
 GUNATILAKA, Uvindu  
 GUPTA, Arnav  
 KHAN, Faraaz  
 MAHAL, Shaan  
 MUDHAR, Aadi  
 NAJEEB, Soufian  
 NOZKA, Kacper  
 PIASECKI, Kacper  
 RAZAGHI, Dara  
 SAUNDERS, Jude

SINKEVICIUS, Danielius  
 UDDIN, Arian  
 VAKILI, Daniel  
 WALI, Alan  
 WILLIAMS, Diallo  
 WILLIAMS, Montel

#### Year 10

AFRAZEH, Arash  
 AHMAD, Arslaan  
 AKO, Jordan  
 ALJAMMAL, Tarq  
 ASSI, Yuvraj  
 CISOWSKI, Kacper  
 HASSAN, Saif  
 JASRA, Adit  
 KAYANI, Mustafa  
 KEENAN, Tom  
 KOZIEL, Kordian  
 LIU, Kieran  
 MITCHELL, Ethan  
 MUHAMMAD, Faizan  
 MWANGI, Ian  
 REWANE, Tsema  
 ROSENBEIGER, Kewin  
 SHORI, Sidhant  
 THOMAS, Alfie

#### Year 11

CLARKE, Jordan  
 ETE, Louis  
 HUSSAIN, Hasseeb  
 JARA, Michael  
 KUNU, Laszlo  
 LOUIS, Jordan  
 META, Andi  
 MOUSSA, Abdelrahman

#### Sixth Form

BARNES, Olivia  
 BROWN, Andy  
 GIBSON-WADSWORTH, Lauri  
 HUSSAIN, Aamir  
 MITCHELL, Brandon  
 RAWLINGS, Abhay  
 RODIPE, Rachel  
 WONG, Kelvin

#### SCHOOL

##### Year 9

ALVARAN, John  
 DIRIYE, Hamza  
 DOLECKI, Patryk  
 HOOGHAN, Camaran  
 LEWING, Anthony  
 NASIRI, Ali  
 PUSEY, James  
 RAZAGHI, Dara  
 SAUNDERS, Jude  
 STANDING, Samuel  
 VAKILI, Daniel  
 WALI, Alan  
 WILLIAMS, Montel

#### Year 10

ALVAKONDA, Varun  
 CISOWSKI, Kacper  
 CLARKE, Deven  
 GIBSON-WADSWORTH, Oskar  
 KAPOOR, Sinhe  
 KHAN, Qaiser  
 LIU, Kieran  
 MULENGA, Mubanga  
 RASHID, Sameer

#### Year 11

CHEUNG, Wesley  
 TAYLOR, Zack

#### SPORT

##### Year 9

AMMOUNE, Omar  
 BHATTI, Isa  
 BLAKENEY, Taylor  
 BRUNDLE, Alec  
 DOBSON, Christopher  
 DUNHAM, Benjamin  
 EDU-NVONO, Emmanuel  
 JAMES, Gabriel  
 LOGAN, Daniel  
 MCQUEEN, Ross  
 NOZKA, Kacper  
 NYANZI, Ben  
 PERIES, Ryan  
 RIZWAN, Sawaiz  
 ROBERTS, Javelle  
 SANGOWAWA, Boluwatife  
 SHEIKH, Daanyaal  
 SYAN, Manraj  
 SZEJKO, Maksymilian  
 WHELAN-MENSAH, Alexander  
 WILLIAMS, Diallo

##### Year 10

ASSI, Yuvraj  
 BAVIN, Joshua  
 CANNING, Jacob  
 CEKAJ, Alban  
 CHOUDHURY, Akash  
 EGUEGU, Sean  
 GIBSON-WADSWORTH, Oskar  
 McHALE, Cody  
 MEIER, Taz  
 REWANE, Tsema  
 SUTTON, Charlie  
 THOMAS, Alfie  
 WILLIAMS, Kyle

##### Sixth Form

BROWN, Andy  
 IRVINE-COATES, Jason  
 McLAUGHLIN, James  
 MITCHELL, Brandon  
 RAWLINGS, Abhay  
 RODIPE, Rachel

# SAVE THE CHILDREN CAMPAIGN RAISES NEARLY £1500

Just in time for Christmas, the school organised a charity campaign to support Save the Children. This international charity aims to tackle child poverty in order to give families a fair chance at life and to try and prevent severe poverty not just abroad but also at home. This campaign involved buying gifts (costing upwards of £5.00) for children and communities around the world, to make a significant difference to children's lives. We ran an inter-house fundraising event, where each form group could decide which gift they would try to buy for a child or family in need.

Each form group was given a thermometer to track the amount of money that was raised. We were delighted that students from across the school raised an astonishing £1,497.35 for Save the Children, a staggering amount. Shackleton were the champion fundraisers with an outstanding £673.55. In second place was Turner with £385.66, while bringing up the rear was Brunel with a still-impressive £327.33. The top performing form was 7E, who raised an unbelievable £164.39. Well done, and thank you, to Miss Hannon and her form for their effort!

With the money that we have raised, we have been able to purchase water filters, midwife training, bicycles, survival kits, winter clothes for a child, footballs, and health care for a child



Well done to 7E and Miss Hannon!

for a year, amongst others! Three form groups used their money to buy goats, while 10D spent their funds on four tree saplings. Three forms raised enough money to buy four separate gifts, which is an absolutely excellent effort. Once we had made all of our purchases, there was still money left over; this £190 was spent on a donkey!

One of our three pastoral priorities for 2015-16 was to ensure that our students are thoughtful, active and caring citizens. These charity campaigns are very important to the school, and we seek to engage all students in local, national and global fundraising campaigns. There will be more fundraising efforts in 2016-17; keep an eye on the school's website for more information.



Students supported each other during tough times in the Rowathon!

## SPORT RELIEF

On Friday 18 March, the school raised money for Sport Relief, a fantastic charity which saves lives both in the UK and abroad. The main event was the house-organised Rowathon, taking place all day in the school hall. Students took ten-minute bursts on the rowing machines, with the challenge to see which house could row the furthest over the course of the day. Although ten minutes doesn't sound like too long a time, it was certainly more difficult than it sounds, and the boys had to dig deep to keep going. The full results are shown below.

1st	TURNER	68,685m rowed
2nd	BRUNEL	67,621m rowed
3rd	SHACKLETON	67,225m rowed

These fantastic figures mean that each house rowed the equivalent distance of Dover to Calais and back - a phenomenal achievement. During the day, students in Years 7-9 were also allowed to dress in sports kit for the day for a minimum donation of £1. The final total raised by the school for Sport Relief was an excellent £381.95 - thank you to everyone who took part, and to the House Leaders for organising the day.

## TORRON-LEE DEWAR WINS BRITISH CITIZEN AWARD

We were delighted to receive notice in July that one of our former students, Torron-Lee Dewar, has been recognised at the House of Lords with a British Citizen Award. This award is presented to people that have made a significant impact on their local community. Torron-Lee is the founder of the dance group Alliance Dance Unit (ADU), which works with young people from underprivileged backgrounds in the local community. Torron-Lee has been working with the troupe - which he started along with five friends - since 2010.

The aim of the group is to help young people by giving them a positive outlet and using dance to teach them the importance of discipline and commitment through his dance classes. It is this pledge to help those in the local community that landed Torron-Lee his award, which he collected from the Palace of Westminster on Thursday 7 July.

Torron-Lee told the BCA, "This dance company has inspired people to make the right choices and that's what I enjoy most about the group; even when it is hard to find the inspiration, it's all about being different." Well done to Torron-Lee for his award; it is such a pleasure for us to see our alumni making such a difference. We hope that this inspires our current students to make similar efforts to help those less fortunate!



## WE DAY

This year, we have once again organised the 'WE Act' scheme, with students from across the school invited to meet once a week to discuss how the school can raise more money for charity. As part of the scheme, the boys were invited to the 'WE Day' event, which took place on Wednesday 9 March. Here is Asad Kapadi's (9D) report.

*Last year, we went to a unique experience at the SSE Arena, Wembley. The event was called WE Day. This event brought tens of thousands of people together from all over the UK for one specific reason - to change the world! To go to WE Day, you can't buy a ticket - you have to earn one. This is achieved by participating in one local action and one global action.*

*Throughout the day, there were many performances, ranging from professional songs to inspirational speeches. This impacted on me positively as it motivated me to do more for charity and to appreciate what I have. As the day went on, it touched more and more people. The speech that got my attention the most was about a girl from abroad, who came to the UK to learn but was instead bullied every day. This never stopped her though, as she stayed after school for hours each day. After a few months, she became fluent at English. The moral of this story is to show that anything or anybody who tried to stop you from doing something is nothing more than a small hurdle. Next year, I would definitely like to take part in this experience again!*



## MICHAEL JARA WINS JACK PETCHEY AWARD!

A huge well done to Michael Jara (11C), who received a Jack Petchey Award on Thursday 24 May at the Waterman's Theatre in Brentford. The award presented for his coaching work with the Feltham Warriors basketball team. It is truly outstanding to see students making an impact in the wider community; well done to Michael!

# ISLEWORTH COMMUNITY PLAY

Nine students took part in the Isleworth Community Play this year: Ahmed Abuelmeaza (11E), Mo Abuelmeaza (13ALE), Kendall Berryman (9E), Jake Bowden (9E), Tom Keenan (10F), Aadi Mudhar (9B), Mubanga Mulenga (10F), James Pusey (9E) and Rowan Thwaites (11F). Tom's report is below.

## *The Isleworth Community Play... what a spectacle.*

*I participated in the 2016 Isleworth Community Play: 'Isleworth- the Rock and Roll Years'. It was a play about Isleworth in the 1950s, featuring characters based on people from the era. Mr McDonnell had suggested that I auditioned for it alongside Mubanga Mulenga, Aaditya Mudhar and a number of other students. We all got roles, and*



James, Tom and Aadi as part of the band (photograph © Anna Loveland).

— THE —

## ISLEWORTH COMMUNITY PLAY

<b>16<sup>th</sup></b> MARCH 7.30pm	<b>18<sup>th</sup></b> MARCH 7.30pm	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b> MARCH 2.00pm	<b>19<sup>th</sup></b> MARCH 7.30pm
-------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------

**Ticket prices:**  
£8 adult, £6 concs  
This is a promenade production.

**Venue:**  
**Isleworth and Syon School,**  
Ridgeway Road, Isleworth TW7 5LJ

**Box office:**  
**Online:** [www.goldengiving.com/event/icp](http://www.goldengiving.com/event/icp)  
**In Person:** **South Street Cafe,**  
2 Shrewsbury Walk, Isleworth TW7 6NW  
**Tel:** 0208 758 9177  
**E-mail:** [isleworthplay@gmail.com](mailto:isleworthplay@gmail.com)

The poster for the play.

*somehow, I managed to score the lead. It was such a fantastic experience as I was out in the community working with people I had never met before, and exploring styles I never used before. The play relied on physical theatre -*

*emphasised use of the body within drama - on such a large scale and was configured in the promenade format, meaning that the cast freely moved within the audience throughout.*

*My character was Vince Taylor, a rock star from the 50s, who grew up in Isleworth; I was challenged to sing and dance in front of (and amongst!) the promenade audience. We did four shows, all of which were roaring successes, held in our very own school hall. I had a fantastic time and would definitely approach that style of acting again without hesitation. I feel that I learned a lot from it which I can apply to my acting in the future.*

The show was directed by Gumley School's Madeleine Casey, and the music was written and performed by Paul Dalton. The fact that Isleworth & Syon was at the centre of it all truly shows the importance of the school within the community.

# WIDER LEARNING WEEK

This year's Wider Learning Week ran from Monday 4 - Friday 8 July for students in Years 7-9 and 12. The purpose of the week is to provide enriching learning experiences in familiar and new contexts, with activities challenging students and promoting a wider understanding and independence. It is also to reward students for their hard work during the school year through a series of interesting and fun activities. Find out how each group got on below.

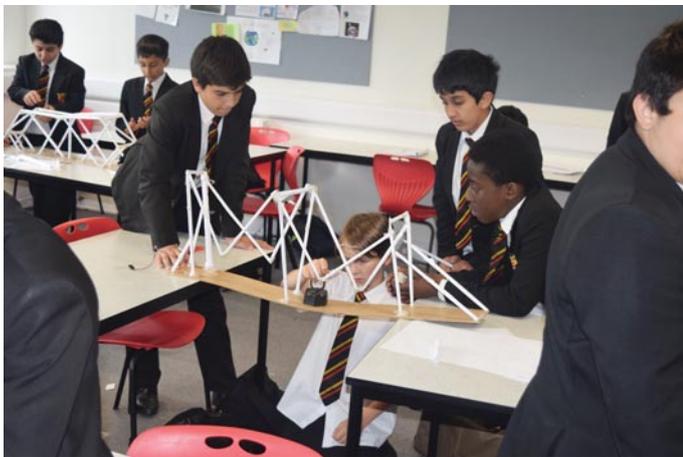
## YEAR 7

Wider Learning Week for Year 7 was a huge success, and it was delightful to see the students throw themselves into the week with such gusto! It was clear that the students relished the chance to break from routine and try something a little different over the course of the week, which began on Monday with a special STEM Engineering Challenge. Students were tasked with making bridges out of only paper and sellotape; the end result had to be able to support a 1kg weight without buckling. Students were put into groups and then had to assign themselves roles within the group - a 'Project Manager', a 'Designer', a 'Finance Manager', and so on. Some students took to the leadership roles naturally, and it was great to see such positive team work on display, with the end results bearing the fruits of this labour.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday were a rotation across three activities - with form groups taking one each day. The science department organised a series of activities under the banner of 'Exploration'. The highlight for many students was the



Creating their own fitness drills.



Above: Working together to build bridges! and below: The winning group: Ishaq Barok, Dan Francis, Gul Khan and Benjamin Rawsthorne.



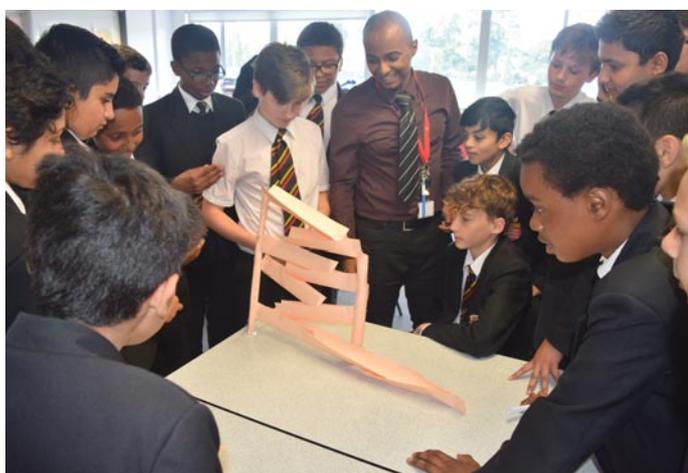
opportunity to get into the lab, use the Bunsen burners and make their own energy drinks from scratch with a variety of ingredients. Students tasted their concoctions once they were done and there were certainly some tasty beverages that may put Red Bull out of the market before long! Meanwhile, P.E. and food technology teamed up for a Health Day - Miss Sheth in the kitchen taught the students some principles of healthy eating before they created their own 'healthy dish'; Mr Mullins led students through some fitness drills and then invited the students to make their own with a variety of apparatus; and Mr Potter put students through some paces with some volleyball, and also taught them a series of fitness exercises involving only a chair! The final activity was a trip to Osterley Park, organised by MFL. Students went searching for a variety of different critters, practicing their language skills at the same time.

On Thursday, students broke from the rotation for a day organised by business studies titled 'Dragon's Den'. With the format based on the hit BBC television programme, students were tasked with designing a new piece of 'wearable technology'. Again, students were assigned roles within each project team and quickly got to work developing their idea, before pitching it to their peers before lunch. There were some truly imaginative ideas, including interactive glasses and watches. The six best pitches (one from each form) progressed to the Grand Final, and had to pitch their ideas to the Dragons: Miss Higginbottom, Miss Ludhra and Miss Simms. It was almost too tough to call a winner, but eventually the Dragons decided that 7A's pitch was the best due to its potential real-world applications. Well done to all the boys involved!

## YEAR 8

Over the course of the week, Year 8 took part in a series of interesting curriculum-based activities on rotation. Each of these activities offered students something different, and feedback afterwards was overwhelmingly positive regarding the variety on display.

Miss Lawler took groups of students to Thorpe Park in Surrey, to investigate the geography and physics of theme parks! Students particularly enjoyed thrill-seeking rollercoasters like 'Colossus' and 'Nemesis Inferno', and lots of discussions were had in terms of how these rollercoasters work with concepts such as gravity and 'g force'. The business department organised a 'marble challenge' (see below), whereby students were tasked with making a rollercoaster out of paper and tape - this rollercoaster had to hold a marble for longer than six seconds. This was a lot more difficult than it sounds, but it was fun to see students getting to grips with the problem and working as a team to figure it out.



Will the marble stay in?

Miss Qadeer and Miss Shukla organised a 'Political Understanding' day that was particularly pertinent this year as it came hot on the heels of the EU referendum result. Students were taught about democracy in the UK, as well as the different electoral systems in this country and in the United States. Students learned about the political parties and their values, which stood them in good stead for their main task of the day: creating their own political parties. Students were asked to come up with a series of manifesto pledges - what they would change in school if they were elected - and then had to pitch them at the end of the day in room 100. Students voted for their favourite by placing a card in a ballot box. It was great to see so many measured arguments on display from the students!



Students built a full working remote-control car.

On Thursday, students took part in an Engineering Challenge led by the design & technology department. The boys worked as a team to produce remote control cars (see above) with an actual electronic component! Once again, the emphasis was on teamwork, and the boys worked very well together to produce a stable end result. The week ended with a zoo-themed rotation, with students spending time in different departments across the school completing animal-themed activities. The highlight was probably science's 'Zoo Lab', with students able to see and touch a series of critters including a millipede, a tarantula and a snake. The look on some of the boys' faces was a picture (as you can see below), but they clearly enjoyed seeing the creatures first-hand! It was a great end to a special week which firmly took the boys out of their comfort zones.



The boys were entranced by the critters.

# YEAR 9

Students in Year 9 were allowed to choose their own activity from a series of options. Please see below for a brief summary of each.

## BEING AN ARCHITECT

Students selecting the architecture week had a fantastic time visiting various London sites. This included the Royal Institute of Architects (RIBA) on Monday, where they took part in a variety of fascinating talks and sessions. In school, students learned more about the architectural process, and were taught how to use computer software to design their own architectural project. Some of the end results produced by the students were simply fantastic, a credit to the hard work displayed by the boys.

## COMPUTING

Our computing students took a trip to the Sky Academy Skills Studio, where they took a tour of Sky News and even filmed their own news report complete with Sky News graphics! In school, students used specialist software to design a game from scratch; at the end of the week, they used the Xbox to play their games on the big screen. Ms Stroude reported that she was delighted with the boys' work ethic during the week.

## DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S BRONZE AWARD

Students participated in the DofE Bronze award spent the week preparing for their expedition, which took place on the Wednesday and Thursday. For more details, check out the DofE article later in this publication.

## FILM-MAKING

Mr McDonnell and Mr Milligan organised a fantastic film-making week, which involved visits to the Sky Television Studios and to the Harry Potter Studio Tour in Watford - both visits were an introduction for students to some of the ideas involved in making a film. For the rest of week, students were given the equipment to produce their own short three-minute film on a subject of their choosing. The week ended with a screening of the films, and the boys did a fantastic (and very professional-looking) job.

## FISHING

The fishing week was organised by Mr Fisher and, accompanied by Mr Archer, he took students to five different lakes across the week. Students received expert tuition and guidance on how to get the best catches. The 'catch of the week' no doubt belonged to William Blades' (9F) - everyone was shocked at just how huge the fish was! Well done to all the boys for their conduct during this exciting week.

Catch of the day by William Blades (9F).



Sports Week students at the Olympic Park.

## SPORTS WEEK

Mr Devlin led the sports boys on a week of high-octane and thrilling activities, including the opportunity to dive at the Olympic park and cycle in the Olympic velodrome in London. Students also enjoyed beach volleyball and practicing their flips on the trampoline during the week, which was very rewarding!



Mr McAlinden teaches Spencer Hussein (9E) how to make a perfect fire.

## SURVIVAL SKILLS

Mr McAlinden and Mr Nowicki led the survival week, with students taught a variety of tactics to survive in the wild. This included orienteering, shelter building, fire lighting and a number of other team-based activities. Students appreciated the opportunity to get stuck in and learn some vital new skills.

Well done to all of the Year 9s for their hard work during the week!

## YEAR 12



We were thrilled to welcome back Bianca Miller.

Year 12 had a great Wider Learning Week, with activities focusing on what comes next for the students. We were delighted to welcome back former 'The Apprentice' contestant Bianca Miller to talk to the students about 'personal branding'. She explained about the importance of presenting yourself well during interviews, and knowing 'your brand' - what sets you apart from the crowd. There were a number of visiting speakers during Tuesday, helping students to understand the process of applying to university, from picking your course to getting the most out of open days to going through the student finance process.

Students were also given expert advice and guidance when it comes to writing their CVs and personal statements - which will no doubt come in useful in coming years! The week ended with a visit to the University of West London in Brentford, with students taking a campus tour and then being involved with a variety of talks and games to educate them about life at university. All in all, the week gave the students plenty of food for thought as they consider their next steps.

A young boy with short brown hair is smiling broadly at the camera. He has mud smeared on his cheeks and forehead. He is wearing a dark grey t-shirt with the word 'TAWAN' printed in blue and white. He is crouching in a muddy, rocky area with green foliage in the background. The text 'THE SCHOOL' is overlaid in white at the top right.

# THE SCHOOL

The PGL Trip was certainly a muddy experience for the boys.

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# YEAR 7 PGL

An integral part of our transition process for the new Year 7s is the PGL trip to Marchant's Hill, near Hindhead. This trip has been running for over ten years and is a fantastic way for the Year 7 students to make new friends and get to know not only their peers but also their form tutors and other members of the pastoral support team. So, on Monday 5 October, over a hundred students set off for an amazing three days full to the brim with activities!

Over the course of the three-day excursion, students were regularly taken out of their comfort zone through a series of thrilling activities. There was some incredible sharp-shooting in the archery, while students reached great heights in the climbing, abseiling and zip wire activities! As always, the boys particularly enjoyed the Challenge Course, getting thoroughly filthy as they crawled through the (very muddy) obstacle course.

All of this thrill-seeking meant that mealtime was eagerly-anticipated, and students enjoyed three hearty meals a day to give them that extra push for the day's activities! The reports from staff were overwhelmingly positive upon the students' return, commenting that student behaviour was exemplary throughout. Well done to all of the students, and to all of the staff who helped to make this trip such a massive success.



The boys were able to zipline over the water.



The obstacle course was particularly challenging in the torrential rainfall.



All the form tutors went along too, allowing the boys to get to know them better.



Students bonded with their peers and formed lasting friendship groups.



Some budding Robin Hoods in action!



Students spent some time on the shooting range!



Lining up the shot carefully!



The former students outside the school which they attended from 1952 - 1957.

## CLASS OF '52 REUNION

**On Friday 9 October, it was our pleasure to welcome several of the Class of '52 to the school for a visit. We asked Roy Marshall, one of the ex-students, to write a piece on the experience of coming back to the school nearly sixty years after he had left.**

Returning to a place you thought you'd left forever can be a strange experience. It was 1959 when I was 18 and left school! Imagine, someone in the present Sixth Form returning in 2071 - so what might he expect to see? A vast glass dome covering the entire site perhaps? Or a 20-storey tower block? In reality, one of the endearing qualities of this country seems to be how little really changes over time. So, in our day, 1952-1959, for pupils (students) to enter the school by the front door was only for morning late-comers in my experience and after daily assembly in the Hall had begun. One would be greeted by Mr Solomon Inman, Senior Master in care of 'lates', and invited to explain the reason for not being on-time.

"Your Grandmother appears to have died 3 times since Christmas! So how do you explain that, Shay?" I heard 'Solly' Inman ask one morning of a boy in the year above me. Mr Inman obviously on top sleuthing form that morning and consulting his list of excuses archived against individual names. Shay got a Saturday morning detention for that little "porky" as I remember!

Well, whilst I suspect the students still do not usually enter by the front door, I know that the punishment system at least will have changed! So it was sort of a treat to be able to enter the school by the Staff entrance and it got better. We were expected and welcomed on reception and given badges so that we wouldn't be confused with the pupils!

Two Tour Boys, Sevak Sohi and Ayyub Suggulle, were our excellent guides so that we could visit any part of the school and not get lost. They were very interesting to talk to.

Amazing to think that the last time I saw some of the guys who turned up to the reunion was over half a century ago - wow! And yet, under the aged exterior (which for all of us has substantially changed of course) was the personality. Changed? Yes, but still 'recognisable' and for many of us we just picked up where we had left off.

The Hall is almost as it was although the canteen has gone from under the balcony and been replaced by the Honours Board - a good decision, remembering the cabbage and custard they used to serve (no, not together, but the food was not good!) Instead, the school has a separate impressive facility with a chef and food in variety available from 8.00am until well after school has finished. Nowadays breakfast is available if required, and interesting buns and stuff after school. This is because for some the school day is extended both before and after 'normal' hours. Times do change, of course, and so do our needs - the air-raid shelters have gone and in their place a recreation area with outdoor table-tennis tables - excellent!

The original 1938 building has stood the test of time and even now influences the character of the entire building since additions have been cleverly incorporated in a sympathetic style.



The ex-students search for themselves in an old school photograph, on display in the main corridor.

The Main corridor outside the Hall had some interesting Year Group photographs and yes, there was ours photographed in 1956, which amused us greatly. Other visuals showed how the school had developed originally from a 1630 foundation of Dame Elizabeth Hill's Charity School (for girls rather ironically) and that "Alumni" include Owais Shah and Mo Farah.

The wonderful parquet flooring in the old school looks as good as it did over half a century ago as does the flooring in the gym although all the wall-bars, ropes and beams, benches and vaulting boxes have been removed; so no "pirates" (a rather 'risky' but enjoyable tag game) now then. And, no Basketball backboards!! But then we were shown into the large new Games Hall and there was the equipment for Basketball and many other activities besides - a wonderful facility. So things have greatly improved and that became clear as we progressed through the new facilities for music, science, drama and IT - the room newly-equipped for music composition is particularly impressive but then so was the Jazz orchestra who played for us. As we looked in to the chemistry lab something interesting was being explored but we didn't see the outcome (usually smelly so no loss there!)

Something equally interesting seemed to be going-on in the Sixth Form Room - well it was the end of the school day! However, the staff room (where the cloakrooms used to be I think!) was absolutely empty! So we presume that all staff were gainfully employed about the building!

We'd made contact with the Headteacher Euan Ferguson earlier in our visit but we finally met up with him in the Library (now several times its original size!) where he spent a good half-hour with us - although it may have been something to do with the tray of cakes (made on the premises), tea and coffee with which we were entertained. In truth, the Head was very generous with his time and we had many of our questions answered and the aspirations explained for the next stage in the development of the school. The library was "at our disposal" until 6.00pm when we were expecting to go to the Isleworthians' Clubhouse in Wood Lane for a reunion dinner.

On behalf of the group I should like to thank Euan Ferguson and all concerned for the opportunity to re-visit the school and see what an interesting and stimulating experience awaits young people today.

I would also like to point out that I was not late!

*Roy "Slim" Marshall*

5 November 2015



Henry Rathore (8C) and Alec Brundle (9A) place a wreath at the Borough Road memorial.

## REMEMBRANCE COMMEMORATIONS

For this year's Remembrance Commemorations, the school took part in a number of events. On Remembrance Sunday, Mr Fisher and Ms Squires accompanied twenty students as they represented Isleworth & Syon at the Isleworth 390 event. Each student wore a sash with the name of one of the 390 Isleworth residents who lost their lives during World War I. The boys displayed impeccable conduct throughout, as they went on a parade around Isleworth and its environs.

On Armistice Day itself, Wednesday 11 November, an assembly was held for each year group in the school hall. A number of students from across the school gave short speeches or read poetry; then, a wreath was placed at the base of the school memorial, located at the back of the school hall. As the clock hit 11.00am, a minute's silence was held in school.

Mr Ferguson and Mr Kettle took a small group of selected students to the local Borough Road memorial, which honours the students and staff of the old Borough College (which was located opposite the school) that died in the War. Students took an active part in the short service with a series of reading, while Zack Taylor (11C) gave a note-perfect rendition of 'The Last Post'. It was an honour to be involved in this moving ceremony along with a number of local schools and residents.

## 'A COUPLE OF DOWN AND OUTS'

To coincide with the Remembrance Day commemorations on Wednesday 11 November, the school hosted a special screening of the silent film 'A Couple of Down and Outs'. Set in war-time, this silent film was shot in Isleworth in 1924. This particular version contains a contemporary soundtrack, entirely composed, performed and recorded by Year 13 student Louis Rugg.

The event was hosted by local historian Ed Harris, author of 'Britain's Forgotten Film Factory: The Story of Isleworth Studios'. The film itself was an absolute delight, and it is absolutely necessary to give special praise to Louis, whose soundtrack was absolutely outstanding, really evoking the time period. It was also great to see a good turnout from parents/carers and visitors; thank you to everyone who came along to share in this special event.



A close-up of the school's wreath, which honours the eighty-one old boys who died during World War I.

## 2015 SCIENCE RESULTS IN COUNTRY'S TOP 10% - FOR THE FOURTH YEAR RUNNING!

In December, we received the first draft of data from the Department for Education (DfE) that confirmed some truly outstanding performances from last summer's GCSE examinations. We were particularly delighted to note that overall figures demonstrate clearly that our boys continue to significantly out perform all students nationally and comfortably out-perform boys nationally. Indeed, across the majority of categories measured the boys are performing at a level that is significantly higher than national benchmarks.

One of our great successes was in the sciences, where the outstanding performances were maintained. Students and staff have seen their progress measures graded by the DfE as being in the top 4% of all results nationally. This is truly a remarkable result - the fourth year running that the results have placed in the top 10%.

We were also thrilled to see significant improvements in the humanities. This year's results for geography and history have moved to being in the top 15% of schools nationally. If this measure were to be graded against boys only, the score would be even more impressive.

## QUIZ & CURRY NIGHT

The Isleworth Association (P.T.A.) gives parents/carers an opportunity to have a voice within the school, with meetings taking place every half term. The Association also runs several social events over the course of the year, with the main one being the Quiz Night. This year, the event took place on Friday 20 November.

The evening was a great success, with over a hundred students, parents/carers and staff forming teams. At the midway point in the quiz, a delicious CucinA curry was served to attendees - this was definitely needed, as the quiz, designed by Senior Laboratory Technician Mrs Robertson, was fiendishly difficult! The winning team was composed entirely of staff, and they absolutely romped to victory by over thirty points!

In all, it was a fantastic evening. Profits stand at just under £550, funds that will be used to support educational projects at school. The 2016 event is scheduled for Friday 18 November, with everyone welcome!



Above: A student receives his award from Mr Murrell and bottom: Lots of medals and certificates on offer!

## YEAR 7 INDUCTION ASSEMBLY

The Year 7 transition process began all the way in March 2015, and culminated with the traditional Induction Assembly on Friday 11 December. Parents/carers were invited to this event, which celebrated the boys' first term at Isleworth & Syon.

A representative from each form group gave a short speech about their first three months at the school, and it was great to hear their insight. Many funny stories and anecdotes were told, many of which came from the PGL excursion in October! The boys commented on the friendships they had built since starting at school, and many thanked the staff for their ongoing contributions. Then, each student was given a bronze, silver or gold medal denoting their current progress. It was truly lovely to see a lot of students wearing their medals with pride not just for the assembly but for the rest of the day!

Well done to all of our Year 7 students for making such a great start to life as Isleworth & Syon boys.



# SUMMER SCHOOL

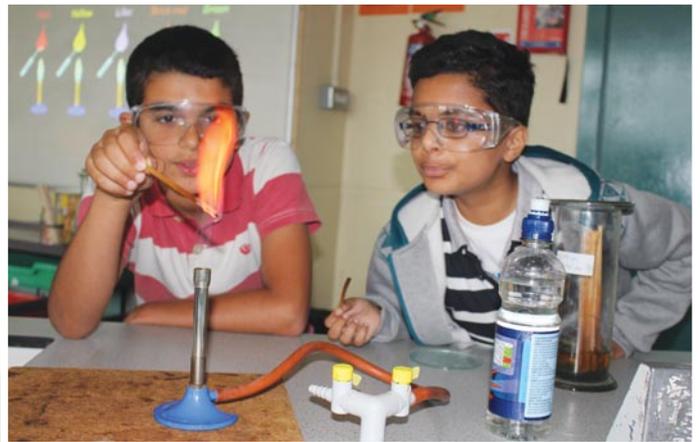
In the last two weeks before the start of the Autumn Term, we once again ran a Summer School for targeted students in Years 7 and 8. Mr Fisher once again organised the scheme, which is a great way for students to get to know each other and form friendship groups before term begins.

The first week was on-site, focusing primarily on sport while bringing in literacy and numeracy - introducing students to concepts that are a main focus at Isleworth & Syon. For the second week, the students concentrated on drama and science, heading out-and-about for various activities, including the Hounslow Urban Zoo, a mini-beast hunt around Osterley Park, and various investigations of ecosystems in the local environment.

Students received a free pencil case and a free book, as well as an introduction to the Accelerated Reader programme. The week culminated in a barbecue at Thistleworth Tennis Club which was well-attended by students and their families. This two-week activity really did act as a springboard for the students, to allow them to hit the ground running in September. Some of the parent/carer feedback is included right. A huge thank you to Mr Fisher for organising the event, to the teaching staff who gave their time, and to the Sixth Form students who helped out.

- *"My son got a chance to explore the activities which are available at school. He really enjoyed seeing the animals at Osterley Park. I feel he has a lot of confidence now and has come out of his shell."*
- *"It was very helpful, my son was happy, he made a lot of progress and he made new friends."*
- *"It provided my son with the opportunity to familiarise himself with the new environment and build new friendships. The structure helped to get him back into a good routine and has built his confidence."*
- *"My child came home every day with a smile on his face."*
- *"My son built friendships with other children and got to know his way around the school. He enjoyed all activities and was very excited to tell me about it."*
- *"A unique opportunity for these children - many thanks!"*

Right: Experiments in science.  
Below: Students had a great time handling several different animals courtesy of 'The Tropical Zoo'.





## SKI TRIP 2016

During the Easter Holidays (Saturday 26 March - Saturday 2 April), Miss Lawler once again organised a ski trip. Although the cohort was smaller than the previous year's, there was a real sense of community amongst the twenty boys that braved the icy winds on the Austrian slopes. The group stayed in Zillertal and took advantage of some absolutely outstanding facilities during the week.

Several of the cohort had never skied before, and yet everyone threw themselves into the activities with gusto. The boys did really well in some pretty challenging conditions, with all earning a ski level award at the end of the week. All members of staff were very impressed with the level of commitment on show from the boys, in spite of the various bumps and bruises picked up along the way!

Each day was devoted to time on the slopes, with the evenings spent taking part in a number of fun activities. Students took part in a disco at an actual (underage) nightclub, as well as bowling at a modern centre which was competition-standard. The bowling alley was decorated with fires and furs and had a really nice atmosphere - not the boys paid much attention to that, as they were too busy being competitive and trying to win! A particular favourite was the Tyrolean evening, where students got a slice of Austrian culture, including log-cutting!

As always, the trip had to come to an end way too soon, but the boys were left with memories of an amazing adventure. The school is already formalising plans for next year's trips - stay tuned to the school's website for more details.

Search #IsleworthSki on Twitter to read some of our tweets from the slopes, which give some further details about just some of the highlights from the trip.



Above: The entire group after a successful week.  
Below: Some tired boys after a particularly arduous day!



Log-cutting during the Tyrolean evening.

## VALENTINE'S DISCO

We were delighted with such a great turnout for this year's Valentine's Disco, which took place on Thursday 11 February. This event gives students in Years 7-9 a chance to let their hair down, as we once again teamed up for the Green School for this very successful event. Over 200 boys and girls attended in total, and the energy (and noise!) levels in the hall were raised to the maximum! As is customary, the evening began with the girls on one side of the hall and the boys at the other, but eventually the shyness gave way to exuberance as the tunes got going! Everyone present had an absolutely fantastic time, and the behaviour was exemplary. There were even a few telephone numbers exchanged by the end!



## YEAR 7 & 8 ONLINE SAFETY EVENING

The Isleworth Association (PTA) puts on a number of educational events for parents/carers over the course of the school year. On Tuesday 26 January, the latest of these was the Online Safety Evening, open to students and parents/carers in Years 7 and 8. The event was hosted by our designated Safer Schools Police Officers PC Beal and PC Weston, and was well-attended.

Those present were given very important information about keeping children safe online, with plenty of hints and tips with how to deal with pressing concerns about websites and social media usage. It was an extremely worthwhile evening, and our thanks to everyone who attended.



Above: Throwing some shapes on the dancefloor.  
 Below left: Andrew Kakeeto - Prom King.  
 Below right: Harlequins was a fantastic venue!



## YEAR 11 PROM

After a very long and arduous seven weeks of examinations, it was all over for Year 11 on the week of 20 June. That meant only one thing - it was time to let their hair down, which they promptly did at the Year 11 Prom on Friday 24 June, at Harlequins RFC, Twickenham. This is always a fantastic event, as the Year 11s say a proper goodbye not just to each other but also to the many staff in attendance. The boys were joined also by girls from Brentford School and the Green School, and there was a real party atmosphere throughout the packed room!

There was plenty of (over-)exuberant dancing on display from the excited students, to some disco classics and some modern chart hits as well. Lots of awards were given out too in a variety of categories including 'Best Dressed' and 'Best Dancer'. The top award, though, is the 'Prom King', and this year's recipient was a delighted Andrew Kakeeto (11E) - resplendent in an all-white suit and pink tie. A huge thank you to every student that came along to celebrate their time at Isleworth & Syon in style!



Casting their vote!

## STUDENTS VOTE 'REMAIN' IN SCHOOL EU REFERENDUM

Thursday 23 June was one of the most important days in the UK political history, as votes were cast across the country in the referendum to decide whether the United Kingdom should leave the European Union. During that week, the House Leaders organised a series of activities for students during form time, giving them the platform to discuss the many complex issues involved in making this decision. Our debaters also took over one of the house assemblies and had an informed debate about some of the issues at hand.

On the day itself, students were given the opportunity have their say and cast their own ballot in our in-school referendum, with the Sixth Form Study Room transformed into our polling station for the day. The turnout was truly outstanding, and it was an absolute pleasure to see so many people engaging in an issue of this magnitude. The results of the ballot were very interesting, with a massive 62% of students voting to 'Remain' in the EU. Thank you to every student who respected the parliamentary process and had their say.

## YEAR 10 UNDERTAKE TWO WEEKS' WORK EXPERIENCE

One of the formative experiences for our Year 10 students each year is the opportunity to undertake two weeks of Work Experience from Monday 4 - Friday 15 July. Students are encouraged during the Autumn Term to find their own placements in a sector that interests them. Off the students went with considerable nerves in the end! We are pleased to say that the boys have equipped themselves very well to this first experience of the world of work, and many employers have been effusive with their praise. Some have even commented that they wished they could keep them once the placement was over! Our sincere thanks to the students for their hard work, and to the businesses themselves for being so welcoming and accommodating to the students.

## FAREWELL, YEAR 11!

After five years of compulsory education, Friday 27 May was the beginning of the end for Year 11, as they had their final formal assembly with Mr Lightfoot in the hall. Over the course of their five years, there have certainly been some bumps in the road, but it was truly great to hear their memories, recounted by representatives from each form. Mr Lightfoot also read out some memories from staff - with many of the students wishing that those (embarrassing) accounts had stayed hidden!

Following the pastoral and academic awards, Mr Lightfoot concluded with a fantastic speech entitled 'Life from the Point of View of a Gamer', which used the prism of video games to give Year 11 some meaningful life advice. We wish all of our Year 11 the very best in whatever comes next - be that our own Sixth Form, college, or the world of work.

## SIXTH FORM STUDENTS VISIT THE WWI BATTLEFIELDS

BY GEORGE BRIDGEWATER (13JST)

The week before October half-term, Miss Qadeer, Emilio Titus and I left London bound for Ypres (Belgium) and the Battlefields of the Somme (in France). What we learnt was the importance of remembering the individuals that lost their lives in battle for their country and their individual stories.

During the trip, I also found the grave of my Great-Great Grandfather, Captain Clement Bridgewater. I learned that he volunteered for service with the cavalry in 1916 and commanded a battalion of the Inniskilling Fusiliers during the battle of the Somme and the Battle of Cambria. I found out that he was buried in Cambria following his death. He died leading the charge into the German frontline on horseback; the Germans had left tripwires along no-man's land crippling the horses before facing large German artillery attacks. A survivor of the charge spoke of Captain Bridgewater's body entangled in the wires, where he died along with his horse. I found this personally harrowing, finding out about this member of my family and his story in the war.

We remember every man and woman who died in the events of the First World War through memorials and assemblies but across Europe they are remembered with events such as the daily Menin Gate Memorial service and the several hundred military cemeteries dedicated to remembering the people behind the war. I feel it is part of our generation's duty to also contribute to the remembrance of those who lost their lives. I had the immense privilege of taking part in the 'Coming World Remember Me' programme. They have been working on this remembrance instillation in No-Man's land around Ypres, since 2014 with Artist Koen Vanmechelen (much like the poppies at the tower of London). Emilio and I were lucky enough to each craft a small clay figure each that will represent one of the 600,000 soldiers who died in Belgium and will be engraved with our names and a soldier's name. This project is what remembrance is all about - drawing attention to the past and allowing us to remember the people that gave their lives so that we can live the way we do today.

## 'SAFE DRIVE, STAY ALIVE'

On Tuesday 6 October, our entire Year 12 cohort took a coach to the Questor's Theatre, Ealing, for the 'Safe Drive, Stay Alive' event. As the title suggests, this sobering event focuses on road safety, with several schools from the London area invited. The event travels around the country, speaking to young people about the importance of staying safe while driving, and the terrible consequences of not doing so. The

event started in a light-hearted manner, with a few games to relax the audience. However, this atmosphere was quickly punctured when the compere informed the audience that within the first two years of passing their driving test, one in five people crash.

For the rest of the event, students listened to a series of very hard-hitting talks from people that had been directly involved in some horrific road traffic collisions. These included members of the London Ambulance Service, the Fire Brigade, and the Metropolitan Police, who all shared their experiences as

responders to the scenes of serious accidents. The imagery that they used was extremely evocative, and students were

suitably stunned at some of the incidents. There was a hush over the group as they left the theatre, silently reflecting on the harrowing tales that they had heard. It certainly gave them plenty of food for thought as they consider learning to drive.



## A-LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE STUDY TRIPS

As part of their A-Level English Literature studies, students are required to go beyond the text and consider a number of different elements, including the context in which it was written, the use of language to convey imagery, and the themes of the novel. To that end, the English department organised a number of trips to help them to do this.

The first took place on Saturday 17 February 2016, as the small group (made up of students from Years 12 and 13) were invited to London's Southbank for a study day with authors Kazuo Ishiguro and David Mitchell. Ishiguro's 'The Remains of the Day' is one of the set texts for the examination, and students learned a lot during the day. Both authors talked a lot about the process of writing, which the group found

fascinating. Ishiguro also made several comments about 'The Remains of the Day' specifically, which was a huge help to students as they prepared for their summer examinations.

Three weeks later, the Year 12 students went to a Sovereign Education A-Level Study Day, which took place at City Temple, Holborn Viaduct. The subject this time was Tennessee Williams' 'A Streetcar Named Desire', another of the examination set texts. Students listened to a number of talks from university lectures, discussing various aspects of the novel including masculinity, the tragic genre, and the historical and social context. The group were engaged throughout, and the day clearly served them well considering the standard of the summer examination results.

## SIXTH FORM WINTER BALL

After a very busy Autumn Term, Sixth Form students let their hair down in their own inimitable style, with their Christmas Ball on Thursday 10 December. Held at the local Harlequins FC rugby ground, the event brought together students from Isleworth & Syon, Brentford School and the Green School for a fantastic evening!

A student DJ was on hand to mix the tunes, with a heavy Caribbean theme to the music that delighted the assembled crowd. The Year 12s and Year 13s grabbed the opportunity to put on their dancing shoes, with several 'dance-offs' taking place over the course of the evening. Unfortunately, as with all events of this nature, it ended too soon - but everyone left with a great feeling of satisfaction after a great evening of socialising and over-exuberant dancing. Our thanks to Miss Tyreman, who co-ordinated the event, and Deputy Head Boy Ali Eta (13TBI), who was instrumental in pulling the event together.



## OXBRIDGE PREPARATION DAY

This year, we have had several students who applied either to an Oxbridge (Oxford or Cambridge) university or medical school for September 2016. To that end, we were delighted to be invited to an Oxbridge Preparation Day on Tuesday 17 November. Miss Tyreman accompanied nine Year 13 students to the event, which took place at the JFS School in Harrow.

During the day, students took part in a wide range of activities, many of which focused on the interview process for these prestigious and highly-selective institutions. The most grueling part of the day, according to the students, was the 'mock interviews' section, where students were put through their paces in two 30-minute subject-specific interviews with recent Oxbridge graduates. Although really quite nerve-wracking, the students gave a great account of themselves during this highly-rewarding day, which gave them an insight into the challenges that they would face during the application process.

## FORMULA 1 LECTURE

We feel that it is important for our Sixth Form students to experience the lecture environment during their time in Years 12 and 13, to give them a small idea of what university life could be like. To that end, a small group of Gifted & Talented mathematics students visited Royal Holloway, University of London on the evening of Wednesday 4 November.

The talk was titled 'Chess at 200mph: The Game of Formula 1 Strategy', and was led by Gareth Griffith, a feature film and major sports software specialist. Gareth's software has been used in over 500 films, including the 'Lord of the Rings' trilogy and Steven Spielberg's classic 'Jurassic Park'.

The lecture itself focused on the mathematical techniques behind race strategy at the Mercedes-Benz Formula 1 team, and was a very rewarding experience for the nine boys who attended. It was designed to bridge the gap between A-Level and university teaching, and left the Year 12 students with plenty to ponder as they consider their next steps.

## TOM SHERRIFF EARNS APPRENTICESHIP AT SKY SPORTS

In May, we were absolutely thrilled to hear that Tom Sherriff (Year 13) has gained a place on a highly-prestigious Sky Sports internship for September 2016.

The 'Fast Forward' scheme offers participants the chance to gain valuable working experience for a year in Sky Sports, working across a variety of shows such as Sky Sports News, Monday Night Football, and other sporting events. It was highly selective, with only one person picked from thousands of applications, and included an intense four-stage application process. The scheme will offer Tom the chance to experience a number of different aspects such as sound, script-writing, logging and editing. We wish him well.



## SIXTH FORM SCORES WELL IN CHALLENGE PARTNERS REVIEW

Towards the end of January, we welcomed a review team from Challenge Partners for an annual "health check" on the quality of the school. This year, the focus was on the Sixth Form. Led by a qualified and active Ofsted inspector, the review team spent two days in school looking at all aspects of our post-16 provision.

The team looked at three aspects of the Sixth Form: improvement strategies; student outcomes and the quality of teaching; and learning and assessment. We are especially pleased that the team validated our own judgement of the provision, as being a really good Sixth Form. Many positive areas were highlighted in the report along with some suggestions for improvement.

The full report is available to read via the school website, while you can view a selection of comments to the right.

## PiXL CELEBRATION

We were delighted when two Sixth Form students - Adam Louelhi (12ALE) and Nabil Malki (12RON) were invited to the PiXL Student Celebration Event, which took place in London on Wednesday 23 September.

PiXL (Partners in Excellence) is an organization that works with over a thousand secondary school across the country, with a focus on raising standards of achievement at GCSE. This event was hosted to celebrate students who achieved well at GCSE, in spite of perhaps not having the best results to build on. Adam and Nabil both overcame specific obstacles to earn a number of outstanding GCSE results.

The main guest at the event was Levi Roots, former contestant on Dragon's Den and creator of the popular 'Reggae Reggae Sauce'. There were also a number of other presentations and performances during the afternoon, which culminated in both boys taking part in the award ceremony. A huge well done to Adam and Nabil - we hope that this event encourages them to keep pushing on as they progress into Key Stage 5!

## IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIES

"School leaders know the strengths and areas for development in the Sixth Form very well. Self-evaluation is accurate and key areas for development are being addressed."

"Staff and leaders are very committed to the students, to improving outcomes and to helping students to move on to the appropriate next stage in their education, employment or training. They give freely of their time and skills to offer individual support and guidance."

"The ethos of the school promotes inclusion and equality of opportunity. Students with differing needs feel well supported."

"Girls are made to feel very welcome in the school."

"There are a wide range of enrichment opportunities available, and good opportunities to develop leadership."

## OUTCOMES FOR STUDENTS

"53% of students achieved A\*B grades, 99% of students achieved A\*-E. The target for A\*B in 2016 is 59%."

"Subjects with strong value added in 2015 according to ALPS were: art, biology, chemistry, English literature, ICT, physical education, physics and sociology."

"The school exceeded its target of 75% A\*-D at AS level with 81% achieving these grades. This shows good improvement. 91% achieved A\*-E."

"Science subjects are a particular strength of the school and are very oversubscribed."

"Students following vocational courses made excellent progress."

## QUALITY OF TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

"There are very positive relationships between students and between students and staff."

"The school provides a secure and supportive environment where all can learn and achieve."

"Teachers plan their lessons carefully with a variety of activities. They have strong subject knowledge and an enthusiasm which motivates and engages the students so that they enjoy their learning. Assessment data is well used in planning."

"Attitudes to learning are excellent. Many students are developing good independent learning skills."

## AUSCHWITZ



On Thursday 4 February, Miss Cox took Gus Fontaine (12ANO) and Danyal Naidu (12JST) to Auschwitz as a means of illuminating their A-Level History studies. Here is Danyal's report (contains evocative imagery).

*As soon as we entered Krakow, the bleakness of its surroundings set the tone of the visit. We were on our way to the infamous concentration camps Auschwitz and Auschwitz Birkenau. Hours later, we entered Auschwitz I and the immediate feeling of distress and uneasiness filtered through my body. How else would you feel if you were standing metres outside a camp where 1.2 million people were innocently massacred? 'Arbeit Macht Frei' ('Work Sets You Free') was written above our heads and it was at that point that I knew history stood before us.*

*We took a detailed and emotional tour around Auschwitz I, with the tour ranging from the selection process all the way to the methods used to kill innocent people. It is extremely difficult to explain the emotions that ran through me but I will try my best. We entered many rooms but a certain number of rooms caused my eyes to widen. One room was 'The Selection Process.' We were explained the process in which mothers would never see their beloved children ever again or feel the soft touch of their husbands as they were to be separated for good. Women, the elderly, children and the sick were ordered to the left whilst the 'fit' men were forced to the right. When we were told this a surge of guilt, wretchedness and anger rose through me. Couldn't anyone save them?! It caused me to think about how much we take for granted as a generation.*

*Throughout the corridors, pictures of the deceased filled the walls. A man called Jozef Jankowski caught my eye. Jozef was deported into Auschwitz on 29 May 1941 and was exterminated on the 16th October 1941. He survived only five months in the*

*camp before his life was snatched away from him... millions of lives*

*were. We later visited the infamous Gas Chambers and it was the part of the trip where I felt both excited and anxious. As I entered the chamber, I looked immediately at the walls and saw nail scratchings. It was the Jews who were crying out for mercy for someone to save them. The Chambers were monotonous and depressing and made me feel small and helpless. I couldn't imagine how 2000 Jews at a time felt crammed into a cold chamber complete with nothing but darkness. This was, in fact, my worst experience whilst at the camps.*

*I had the privilege and the once-in-the lifetime opportunity to visit Auschwitz I and Birkenau. It was an amazing experience to witness these events first-hand, and has really educated me when learning about the Holocaust. We had specialists who guided us every step of the way and answered all of our questions when needed. This trip has really made me open my eyes about events that may have happened over 70 years ago, but will live with us forever. The most important thing I have learned is that hatred and racism over a certain race or ethnicity is futile. We were all born human beings and we will all die human beings. Unfortunately, the Jewish people were victims of a repulsive crime committed by one man whose ideologies caused unforgettable moments. In addition, I have also learned the development of the Holocaust and how it wasn't only the Nazis who carried out these awful actions but the other processes involved. It has also developed my learning on Jewish life before the war and how the Holocaust caused Jews to act and live differently post-war. Lastly, I would like to thank the people working at the Holocaust Education Trust for giving me the opportunity to visit Auschwitz.*

# MEDIC CLUB

Ms Stead has once again run the Medic Club this year, designed for Year 12 students who have expressed an interest in studying medicine or a related subject at university. The club was extremely well-attended this year, with students throwing themselves into a weekly programme of stimulating activities.

One particular highlight was the study of ophthalmology - the science of the eye - at Specsavers in Hounslow. The store was particularly accommodating to the students, inviting them in for some hands-on medical eye examinations. Students were shown detailed images of the backs of eyes, and were taught the signs of possible tumours and cases of diabetes. The boys then put dye in each other's eyes to look for the blind spot. It was a great afternoon for the boys.

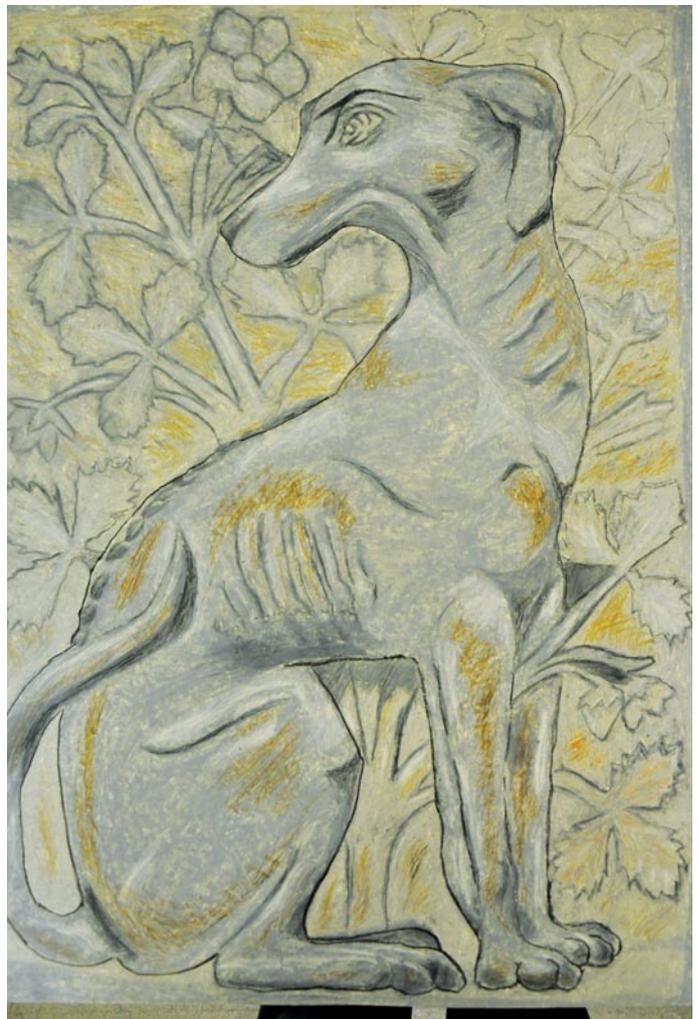
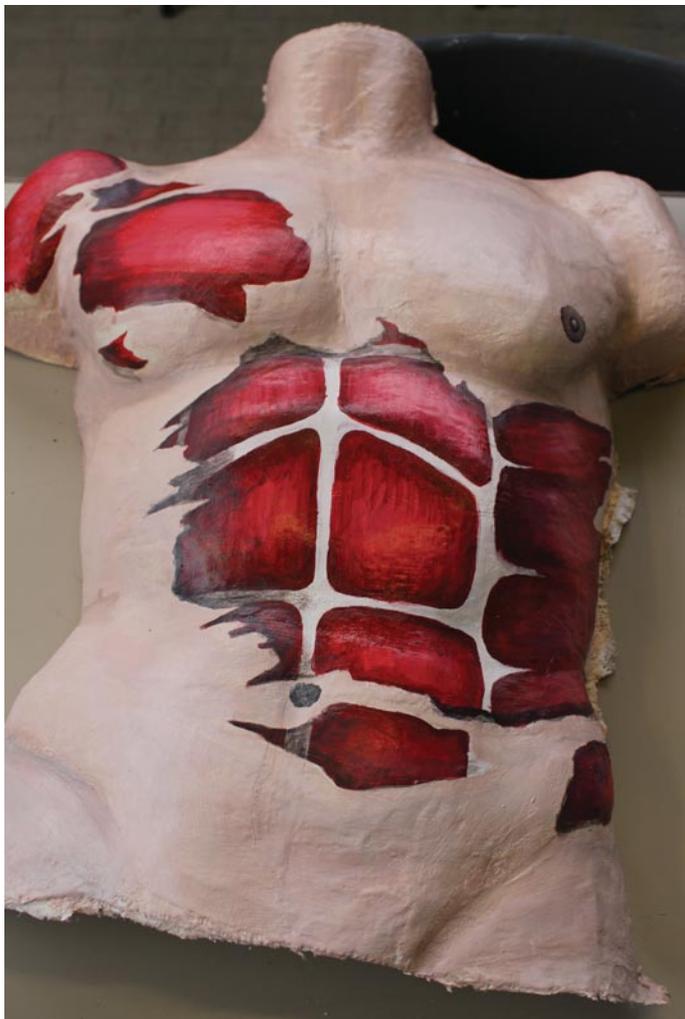
Later in the year, we were lucky enough to be invited to a Medic Day at the Hunterian Museum, London. This day-long activity began with a lecture about the life of a doctor, with students hearing from several medical professionals about what a typical day is like for them. Students were then taught the art of suturing, learning two different types of stitch and the situations in which they would be applied. The boys' favourite part, however, was when they were given the opportunity to watch three operations on video, accompanied by a doctor's live commentary. The boys watched a triple heart bypass, a brain tumour extraction and a gastric operation, and it was a fascinating insight into the practical part of being a doctor.



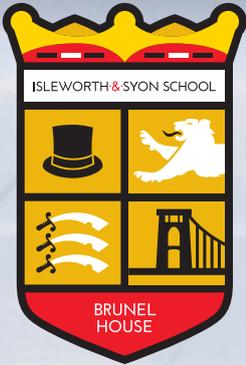
Students also took part in a number of dissections!

In school, Ms Stead ran a number of activities building on what they had learned outside the classroom. A particular highlight was a visit from Jane Marshall, a speaker from Imperial College London. Ms Marshall actually sits on the medicine admissions panel for the university, and so she was able to give students some outstanding advice regarding personal statements and the interview process.

Of the previous year's cohort, four students have gone on to study medical courses at university in September 2016. From this year's group, three students have already been inspired to apply. This is a testament to the hard work from Ms Stead and the science team.



SPORT



LAPS TO GO

## SPORTS TEAMS

It's been another fantastic year of sport for the P.E. department, with our sport teams going from strength-to-strength over the course of the year. With each member of staff taking responsibility for a sport, there has been a sense of cohesion across the extra-curricular programme that has suited the boys well. When that is added to the outstanding level of commitment from the students, you have a recipe for success.

The biggest success has come from **cricket**, with consistent success pretty much across the board. Mr Potter has put on lots of extra training sessions before school, with boys sometimes coming in at 7.30am. This clearly paid dividends, with our Year 7 group not only finishing as comfortable borough champions but also emerging victorious in the Middlesex Plate. The Year 8 cohort displayed some very strong performances throughout the season to be crowned borough champions; they also narrowly finished runners-up in the indoor borough tournament and third in the Middlesex 8-a-side. Year 10 also competed in an 8-a-side tournament, and also finished third. We were delighted with the progress of Year 9 this year; they also won their borough tournament, crowning a Key Stage 3 clean sweep!

Not to be outdone, Mr Mullins has led the **athletics** students to some great successes this year. Year 7 finished the Cross-Country borough tournament as runners up, while Year 10 won the Super 8s championships by a staggering 98 points! Year 8 also won their borough Super 8s competition, as well as the Borough Championships, where the 4x100m relay team beat the school record by a phenomenal 2.5 seconds. Well done to Eddie Imarayiosa (8B), Morgan Lawrence (8E), Cadell Osborne (8E) and Josiah Wilson Kepple (8A). Finally, the Year 8 boys comfortably won the Middlesex Indoor Championships and were rewarded with a place in the London Youth Games, where they placed as the sixth best team in the whole of London.

There were a number of successes across the other sports, with our Year 8 students placing as runners-up in the borough KS3 **table tennis** tournament. Our Year 7 **footballers** had a challenging year but eventually were rewarded with the title of Borough Champions, while in **rugby**, both Year 8 and Year 9 won their tournaments at sevens level - the Isleworth Cup and Gunnersbury Plate respectively. We hope that these successes spur the boys on next year to bigger and better things!



Above: KS3 students putting in the hard graft before school.  
Below: Our Year 8 indoor champions.



## SCHOOL XV 19-48 OLD ISLEWORTHIANs

On Wednesday 16 December, Wood Lane played host to the annual rugby fixture between a combined Isleworth & Syon student and staff XV and the Old Boys. This year, the Old Isleworthians RFC emerged as comfortable winners in tricky condition.

The game often sees former students taking time away from work or higher education to catch up with their former teachers and peers. Entertainment is never in short supply, with this year's match no different. The school XV battled hard but they were no match for the speed and physicality of the Old Isleworthians. Well done to all who took part, and congratulations to the Old Boys for their victory.



## HARRY WILLIAMS: U-13 BADMINTON RUNNER-UP!

Badminton continues to go from strength to strength in the school (see report below) with students thriving under the tutelage of Miss George. One student, Harry Williams (8E) has shown immense potential this year, and on the weekend of 12 March, he competed in the U-13 Badminton England bronze circuit tournament. The event took place in Birmingham, and we were delighted to learn that Harry finished as the runner-up overall. Miss George hopes that Harry can push on from this to even bigger success in the future.



Above: Ayden Davies (Year 12) in action.  
Below: A collection of our KS3 and KS4 winners.

## BADMINTON ROUND-UP

It has been another very successful team for our Badminton team, marshalled as always by Miss George. Both our Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 teams narrowly won the borough round of the National Schools' Championships - Isleworth & Syon teams have now been the borough champions for ten straight years, both at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4.

These victories meant that the boys progressed to the West London Finals, which took place at the Harrow Leisure Centre on Friday 5 February. The boys played very well indeed, with both teams extremely unlucky to lose out on a place in the London final by just a single game. Well done to both teams:

### KS3

Ben Dunham (9D)  
Asad Kapadi (9D)  
Daanyaal Sheikh (9D)  
Harry Williams (8E)

### KS4

Delaine Bedward (10A)  
Gaurav Kharaud (10C)  
Navraj Sohal (11A)  
Sevak Sohi (10C)



Several of our students have also been involved in the London Youth Games. The Hounslow team is coached by Miss George, and 70 students from across the borough took part in the trials. Sevak Sohi and Ravin Jayasekara (12RON) performed well enough to be selected for the four-person team, which is an outstanding achievement - especially from Sevak, considering the rest of the team was made up of Sixth Form students.

It is great to see our outstanding pedigree for Badminton continuing. For those looking to get involved, the club runs from 3.00 - 5.00pm after school on Mondays and Tuesdays, with everyone welcome.

## HARRY CASE LEADS ENGLAND OUT AT THE RUGBY WORLD CUP

We were delighted to witness Harry Case (11A) as he had the honour of leading the England Rugby Team out in the opening match of the Rugby World Cup. Harry, the captain of the school rugby team, had been selected during the previous year as a result of his commitment and dedication to rugby in school.

As a result, Harry was a special guest at the opening match of the tournament, as England faced Fiji at Twickenham on Friday 18 September. Harry did the school proud as he triumphantly carried the flag and sang the national anthem alongside England captain Chris Robshaw. Congratulations to Harry for his achievement!

# MO FARAH WINS DOUBLE OLYMPIC GOLD IN RIO

All in school were extremely proud as former student Mo Farah won his second double Olympic gold in Rio this August. Mo attended Isleworth & Syon from 1999-2001, and even at that young age showed a thirst for long-distance running. It was clear that he was destined for greatness, and he is now one of the most successful British Olympians of all time. His performances in the 5,000m and 10,000m events in Rio were simply breathtaking, pushing past his opponents in such a commanding fashion that the result was never in doubt. He won each race by a clear margin, with many now calling him one of the greatest distance runners of all time.

At our annual Senior Awards Evening, we award the Farah Cup to one student who has demonstrated hard work on their way to success. Mo acts as an inspiration and a motivation to our students every single day, and we are delighted that he has experienced such success on a global scale. Congratulations to him for such a phenomenal and richly-deserved achievement!



# CONOR DAVIS RUGBY SESSION



On Tuesday 24 November, we welcomed Conor Davis to the school as part of the Teach First visiting teacher scheme. Conor Davis now works for Citi Bank, but he was formerly a rugby player, representing Ulster as well as his country at junior level. Unfortunately, his career was cut short due to injury, and he moved into banking.

Over the course of the morning, Conor delivered an intense rugby coaching session to some of the school's senior rugby players. It was great for the students to be put through their paces by a former professional! Afterwards, Conor hosted a question-and-answer session with the boys, speaking to them about seizing the opportunities they are given, how to progress into a banking career, and how sport has helped him in his professional life. It was a great morning, and we sincerely thank Conor for giving up his time!

# LEVEL 2 STREET GAMES AWARD

During the Spring Term, our Year 12 Level 3 BTEC Sport and Leisure students have taken their Level 2 Street Games award as part of their course content. The aim of the award was to allow the students to gain skills whereby they are able to engage young people in accessing physical activity, particularly in rural areas where they do not have as much access to sport. We were delighted that the boys involved absolutely threw themselves into the task and found it extremely rewarding.

## STUDENTS REPRESENT BOROUGH AT LONDON YOUTH GAMES

We were thrilled to hear that five of our junior students represented the borough of Hounslow for cricket at the London Youth Games. The matches took place at Lords, the home of English cricket, and the boys absolutely did the school proud as they and the rest of the borough team ended up as silver medallists!

The boys involved have been training hard all year, with Key Stage 3 cricket going from strength to strength this year (see Sports Teams at the start of the Sports section). Up to thirty students have been taking part in early morning training sessions with Mr Potter each and every week, and the results have paid dividends. Well done to the boys who represented Hounslow: Curran Bains (7A), Zohaib Chaudhri (8F), Zayn Hussain (8D), Ahmed Kalair (8E) and Sukhteshwer Khaira (8F).



## STUDENTS VISIT LORD'S FOR MIDDLESEX ENGAGEMENT DAY

On Tuesday 28 June Mr Potter was back at Lord's, but this time he had a group of nearly fifty students with him. The occasion? The Middlesex Engagement Day, a special event which invited 5000 young people into the home of English cricket to watch a first-class County Championship cricket match between Lancashire and Middlesex. There was some well-intentioned banter between the students and Lancashire-born Mr Potter throughout the day!

During the day, students were also given the privileged opportunity to actually bowl and bat at Lord's! They took part in a series of cricketing activities, including B20 cricket and sprint cricket, and also were given a personal tour of the ground. The boys' behaviour on the day was exemplary. Afterwards, Mr Potter said, "the boys have been outstanding in every respect today [and their] behaviour, attitude and actions have been impeccable." A special thank you as well to Sixth Form students Kamran Anwar (12RON), Prince Radhakrishnan (12MAS) and Jamie Tilt (12MAS) who assisted during the trip and have been a huge help to the department all year.



## RFU JUNIOR REFEREE'S AWARD

On Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 February, our Year 13 sports students took part in an RFU Junior Referee's Award, spending two days learning how to be a rugby referee and picking up a qualification at the end of it. The boys worked really hard over the course of the programme, with the external trainer very impressed with their effort.



Playing cricket at Lord's!

# JAMES MCLAUGHLIN WINS JACK PETCHEY AWARD

We were delighted to receive notice in December that Sixth Form student James McLaughlin (13MAS) had won a Jack Petchey Award. This is a prestigious award that is presented to young people who have made a significant and prolonged contribution to the local community. In James' case, this is due to the outstanding work during Premier League Kicks sessions organized by the Brentford Football Club Community Sports Trust.

Premier League Kicks is a scheme that began in 2006 and aims to reduce crime rates in London by engaging students in sport. James began as a participant in the sessions, but started coaching on a volunteering basis in January 2015. He impressed those in charge enough to become a paid Trust coach after completing his FA Level One award in July 2015! Since then, he has shown an outstanding level of commitment, continuing to volunteer with the scheme on top of his paid hours. James commented that coaching has "helped me recognize that I like sharing my knowledge of sport with young people".

After receiving his award, James received a write-up in one of the Brentford FC official matchday programmes, in which he credited his Level 3 studies at Isleworth & Syon as the inspiration for his coaching. James won a £200 grant from the Jack Petchey Foundation along with his award, and used that to take his Kicks group to Top Golf in Surrey. A huge well done to James for his achievement!



Students designed, prepared and delivered a whole range of activities.

## HIGHER SPORTS LEADER AWARD

All students in the Sixth Form are given the opportunity to take the Higher Sports Leader course, a national-recognised Level 3 qualification run by Sports Leaders UK. 14 of our current Sixth Form cohort organised a Sport Relief FUNDamental festival at Marjory Kinnon School on Wednesday 16 March, as part of their award. All 96 students at Marjory Kinnon took part, and students and staff alike were overwhelmed with the professionalism displayed by the students as they planned, delivered and evaluated a series of sporting activities. It is a pleasure to see these Sixth Form students taking a leadership role and making a real tangible difference in the local community. Well done to the students involved!





Above: Josiah Abraham is surrounded by Staff defenders.  
Right: The winning team!



## YEAR 13 LEAVERS 5-1 STAFF XI

One of the more eagerly-anticipated events of the sporting calendar is our Year 13 Leavers' football match against the Staff XI, which took place on Wednesday 20 April. With some new blood amongst the staff ranks this year, they were a somewhat unknown quantity, and it seemed like the match would be as tight an affair as always. However, on this occasion, the pre-match predictions were widely off the mark, as the Year 13s romped to an easy victory.

They took the lead after just seven minutes with a goal that displayed the route 1 tactic at its best, as Josiah Abraham (13JST) latched on to a goal kick from Nick Bennett (13MAS) and comfortably finished past Mr Hoy in the staff goal. Ten minutes later, though, and the Staff were level with an excellent finish from mathematics teacher Mr Dilks. At this

point, the game was fairly tight, with both defences stifling each other. However, the game was blown wide up just before time with an outstanding free-kick from Josiah Abraham, scoring his second of the game with a free kick right out of the top-drawer, leaving the 'keeper no chance.

At the beginning of the second half, the staff made a series of substitutions and looked to be getting back into the game. However, two goals in quick succession pretty much finished them off, as Harry Walker (13MAS) and Jahi Laing (13JST) made it 4-1. From that point on, the game was pretty much over. Harry Walker did put more gloss on the scoreline with a fine finish to make it 5-1, which was how it ended. The Year 13 Leavers have now won two years in a row. Congratulations to them, and well done to everyone involved!

## P.E. DEPARTMENT WINS 'CHANCE TO SHINE' AWARD!

This year has seen a major drive for cricket led by Deputy Curriculum Leader Mr Potter. All of this hard work has clearly paid off as the school was nominated for Schools Project of the Year at the Middlesex 'Chance to Shine' cricket awards. It was a real honour to be nominated for the work and effort in delivery of our provision over the course of the year.

Two other schools were nominated for the award; the awards day took place at Lord's Cricket Ground on Sunday 26 June, with Messrs Potter, Devlin and Mullins in attendance. We were all absolutely delighted when we won the award! The school was honoured for our outstanding extra-curricular provision, including the new 'Bats for Boys' initiative, which makes cricket bats more readily-accessible to Year 7, allowing them to develop their skills from an early age. Mr Potter has also instituted lunch clubs for cricket-related activities, 7.00am morning training sessions (not for the faint-hearted, but well-attended!), and teams at every age group across borough and county competition (including 'B' teams at Key Stage 3).

Throughout this Review, you can see the breadth of cricketing success this year, a testimony to the hard work from the staff and the commitment from the students. We hope for much more next year!



# SPORTS DAY 2016

One of our favourite events in the school calendar is our annual Sports Day, which was once again held across the road at the Osterley track, on Friday 1 July. This all-day event is a fantastic way for students to get into the house spirit, as Years 7 and 8 in the morning and Years 9 and 10 in the afternoon attempted to win valuable points for their house. All of the athletics track and field events were run during a jam-packed day that was superbly organised by Mr Potter and the P.E. department.

The atmosphere during both halves was absolutely electric, with students roaring their classmates on! The standard of performance was very high, with many of the events extremely close. Students in first, second and third were given a medal and a place on the podium as reward for their exertions. Several school records were resoundingly broken over the course of the day, including Josiah Wilson Kepple (8A) absolutely destroying his own triple jump record with a truly outstanding leap!

It was very close, but in the end the overall winners (for the second year in succession) were Turner, who celebrated triumphantly. In spite of difficult weather conditions and pretty much constant light rain, the boys did themselves proud over the course of the day.



## FORM SCORES

7A	101	8C	114	9F	112	10B	129
7C	101	8F	108	9B	106	10F	124
7E	99	8E	97	9A	99	10E	81
7B	96	8D	91	9E	97	10A	77
7F	85	8A	83	9C	93	10C	68
		8B	81	9D	76	10D	46



# DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



We have once again organised the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme within the P.E. department. We offer three levels: Bronze (Year 9), Silver (Year 10 and 11) and Gold (Years 12 and 13). We are proud to be one of only a few local schools to still offer the Gold award.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is split into several sections:

1. Volunteering (six months for Bronze and Silver, twelve months for Gold);
2. Learning and demonstrating a new skill
3. Physical recreation (such as a sports or gym activity)
4. A week's residential experience away from home (Gold only)
5. Expedition.

Students complete the expedition in school and the rest of the sections independently. This year, a record number of students took part in the three awards.

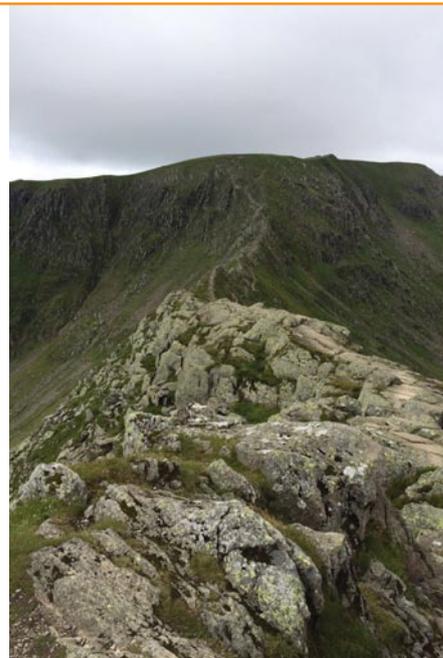
Mr West led a total of 57 students in the Bronze award. Throughout the year, the boys take part in a variety of different training, including basic camp craft and map reading. This was designed to prepare the boys for their assessed expedition, which took them to Shere for two days and one night during Wider Learning Week. All but one group were successful with their expedition, and the boys performed well. We were pleased as well that several of their groups

worked in the local community as part of the programme, volunteering at the Barnardo's charity shop. We hope that the boys continue their Duke of Edinburgh's Award journey in 2016-17.

20 students took part in the Silver award, led by Mr Adams. As with the Bronze, the boys had one practice expedition and one assessed, and they display exceptional campcraft in often challenging conditions. During the practice in Chiltern, there was torrential rain and howling winds, but the boys displayed resilience and determination, which they then took into their assessed. Many of the students had progressed directly from the Bronze award, and we are very proud of their progress. A special thanks as well to volunteer Steve Turner, who assisted us with the Bronze and Silver practices, and was invaluable.

As always, the Gold cohort was smaller, with six students from the Sixth Form taking part and led by Mr Gaskell. They undertook one expedition during 2015-16 (to the Lake District) with the second and final expedition to the Brecon Beacons scheduled for September 2016. Each of these expeditions lasts for four days and three nights, and is a huge challenge for these students. Several of the boys had completed both of the other levels, and so this

represented the culmination of their journey. A particular challenge was the 'Striding Edge' at Helvellyn, but the boys applied themselves excellently and were a credit to the school.



The terrifying 'Striding Edge.'

A number of Isleworth & Syon students who took part in the 2014-15 scheme visited the Civic Centre for their Presentation Evening on Tuesday 10 May, picking up their Bronze and Silver awards. We were delighted to also see Joe Formby (Year 13) pick up his Gold award at the event, a testament to his hard work. Almost a week later, on Monday 16 May, Mr Ferguson was invited to a very special Duke of Edinburgh's Award ceremony at Buckingham Palace, which commemorated the 60th anniversary of the scheme.

Grey skies during the Silver expedition!



The gold competitors.



A collection of our Bronze competitors.

# DEFEAT FOR THE I&S CRICKET XI AGAINST THE MCC

We were delighted to once again welcome the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) for their annual match against our First XI. This year's game took place at the Old Isleworthians Sports Ground, Wood Lane, on Wednesday 15 June.

MCC won the toss and elected to bat on a hot and steamy wicket. Jamie Tilt (12MAS) and Talha Azam Malik (11E) opened the bowling for Isleworth & Syon and were dangerous from the very first over. After a strong bowling and fielding performance, we bowled the MCC out for 224-7, leaving them with a 225 target to win the match. Amongst the wickets were the aforementioned Jamie and Talha, as well as Prince Radhakrishnan (12MAS) and Iffy Ahmed (11F).

It was a particularly challenging match for us as the first XI was extremely depleted due to the ongoing summer examinations. Particularly mention must go to Talha and Iffy, both of whom came



back to the match once their examination had been completed!

We made a really good batting start in spite of sharp and consistent bowling from the MCC openers. Although the boys gave everything they had, MCC were just too good on the day, bowling us out well short of the target. However, this was a solid performance from the boys in difficult circumstances, and Head of Cricket Mr Potter was rightly proud of the group.

A special thanks to Michael and the CucinA staff for the fantastic spread that greeted the players after the match, to the Old Isleworthians for hosting, and to the old boys and staff who supported. It was another great day, and next year's should be even better - the Middlesex

Cricket Board (MCB) have just donated a cricket pitch cover to the school, which should hugely improve conditions going forward.



# RACHEL RODIPE NOMINATED FOR BTEC SPORT STUDENT OF THE YEAR

We were delighted to receive notice in the Summer Term that Year 13 student Rachel Rodipe had been shortlisted for the BTEC Sport Student of the Year in the National BTEC Awards. Rachel was put forward by the school, and was one of eight finalists out of thousands of students entered. The judging panel deemed that Rachel should be "highly commended" as one of the outstanding

BTEC Sport students in the country - a phenomenal achievement as only five students in the UK received this honour.

The award is richly deserved for Rachel, who has been an outstanding influence within the BTEC cohort this year. She earned a triple Distinction\* in her BTEC Extended Diploma in Sport, which is equivalent to three A-Level A\*s. Her work ethic and commitment to the course within the classroom has been nothing less than exemplary, along with fantastic attitude, behaviour and commitment. Her work is not merely confined to school, however - she does lots of work in her local community as a founding member of the Creative Café in the Beavers Estate. This Saturday morning club targets small children (5-11) and promotes healthy lifestyles through sport. She has regularly assisted in primary schools and other initiatives. Mr Adams, Curriculum Leader for P.E., said, "Rachel is not only an outstanding student - she is polite,

affable, reliable, and is willing to give back to her school and community." Rachel now goes on to study at St. Mary's University, Twickenham, and we wish her well.



# FACILITIES

The work to install floodlights and fencing around our 3G astroturf pitch was eventually completed during 2015-16, after a great deal of work by many people to persuade local planners of the benefits of the scheme. We now have a fantastic facility which can be used in all weathers by the students and which will be a valuable community resource. In addition, we have planted some mixed shrubs along the Church Road aspect of the field which will, in time, form a new hedge fitting for the conservation area.



We were delighted to see the eventual installation of a pelican crossing on the Great West Road at the junction with Ridgeway Road. This new crossing will make the road much safer for our students and for members of the community, and comes after many years of lobbying from the Headteacher and members of the Isleworth Association.

There are always developments taking place at school and one of the improvements this year has been the refurbishment of the Performing Arts corridor. The “before” and “after” photographs tell their own story!



Before...



... and after!

# FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The £7 million project to build a new teaching block is underway. This will see 20 new teaching rooms being built, essentially to house core subjects. Our architects from 'Useful Studio', Catherine Ramsden and former student John Edwards, have produced a wonderful scheme that will greatly enhance the school estate and produce teaching rooms fit for many years to come.

Part of the scheme will see some internal re-modelling of existing rooms, including the installation of four new science laboratories. The intention is to have all building works completed by early next Autumn Term.

We are in discussion with the Local Authority and South West Trains to give up a small stretch of land on our Busch Corner playing fields to allow for better access, including disability access, to the Syon Lane station. As part of the work, trees will be re-planted along the railway line and new fencing installed along Spur Road.



# NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

On 1 September 2016, the school launched our brand new website at [www.isleworthsyon.org](http://www.isleworthsyon.org). The new website has been in the works for over nine months, and has been redesigned and redeveloped from the ground up in order to focus on delivering visitors the best possible user experience.

We've made a number of significant improvements behind-the-scenes which ensure that the new website is smoother, slicker and faster, making it easier than ever for you to access the content you need. Furthermore, the website has a responsive design, meaning that it will adapt to whatever screen size it is being viewed on. The new site looks absolutely fantastic on mobile phones, tablets and laptops. The design elements of the site have been retouched to make the experience a lot more immersive, with full-width images or slideshow galleries on each page to create a vivid visual experience.

The organisational structure has also been improved, with everything slotted into seven distinct sections: 'Our School', 'Admissions', 'Sixth Form', 'Curriculum & Learning', 'Pastoral Care', 'Parents' and 'Students'. No matter what you are interested in, it will be easy to find it. Navigating the site is easier than ever, with improved search capabilities and a sidebar on each page telling you what else is contained within that section.

Being outstanding in every respect is at the cornerstone of everything we do at Isleworth & Syon, and this extends to our communications. With our Twitter ([www.twitter.com/IsleworthSyon](http://www.twitter.com/IsleworthSyon)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/IsleworthSyon](http://www.facebook.com/IsleworthSyon)) social media accounts going from strength to strength, we continue to keep parents/carers up-to-date with everything that goes on in the school on a day-to-day basis.

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