

HAMPSTEAD BUZZ

Highlights and Achievements - Spring Term 2016



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HEAD'S MESSAGE

Jacques Szemalikowski

As the Summer examination series approaches, as always interventions and examination preparation ratchets up into a plethora of activity. These include:

- Busy and very well attended Easter holiday school
- Regular Saturday school since middle of January being attended by an increasing number of students
- Allocated after school revision timetable for all subjects
- Targeted students for all above
- Mentoring and learning conversations underway
- Another round of pre-public examinations in some subjects.



We wish all our students the very best in the run up to their all-important examinations.

The publication of examination performance will change considerably in 2016, with the redundant 5A*-C measure at GCSE replaced with a much greater emphasis, rightly, on progress. The new measure is called Progress 8 (alongside Attainment 8). The Department for Education calculated that our Progress 8 would have been +0.4 last year, which means that students achieved considerably above expectation.

Secondary transfer offers day is now reported regularly in the media and we were pleased to offer 210 new students a place for September. We are holding a large waiting list, and over a quarter of applications for siblings. I know that this level of confidence in the school is predominantly through word-of-mouth. Thank you!

Our building work continues. With outdoor space at a premium, we have opened numerous internal facilities for students at our shortened lunchtime, including a daily film screening in the hall. Students have adapted really well to the reduction in space and have impressed us all.

US Ambassador, Matthew Barzun Visit

Cathryn Israel

Hampstead School was delighted to host a visit from the US Ambassador to the UK, Matthew Barzun.

Ambassador Barzun engaged in a discussion with students. The focus largely centred on US policy, guns, foreign policy, diplomacy and humanitarian aid. Students posed thoughtful, knowledgeable, and at times challenging questions throughout.



Embassy staff commented that they were thoroughly

impressed with the students' global understanding, ability to phrase emotive questions and confidence to partake.

The Ambassador commented that this was one of the most enjoyable events he has run, out of over one hundred schools. The visit provided a unique and enriching opportunity for Hampstead School students to engage with international affairs.

COMPUTING FOCUS WEEK

8 - 12 February 2016

Nicole Davis

This year's Focus Week coincided with Safer Internet Day on 9th February with a range of activities to encourage both students and teachers to use computing concepts into



subject areas. Students completed problem solving activities during registration and entered a prize draw. During PSHCE lessons Key stage 3 and 4, tutors delivered an E-safety lesson to discuss topics around cyber bullying, online grooming and digital footprint.

12 Hampstead School students were invited to attend the Safer Internet Day 2016 event in London. Mrs Davis took 4 students to No.10 Downing Street for a question and answer session with the Prime Minister's Advisor regarding what the government can do to make the internet safer for young people. The second part of the event was held at the BT Centre where students did various activities relating to how students can play their part in helping to create a better and safer internet. Junada A (8.2) was chosen for a roundtable E-safety discussion and contributed his views clearly on the stage with representatives from the BBC, Twitter and Facebook.

To encourage girls into studying computing there was a session on building PCs and another session has been planned for the summer term - targeted at Key Stage 3 girls. Mrs Buecher conducted a session on programming buggies using crumble kits to Key Stage 3 students.

Lastly, 40 students from the Digital Leaders Club and High Potential Learners from Year 10 visited the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park. The students met Computer Scientists and received fascinating talks on the evolution of computers; including the Colossus - the first electronic, digital, programmable computer.

SPORTS RELIEF – 16 March 2016

Dimitri Mousicos

A fantastic event where 24 Year 10 students represented Hampstead School at Oxygen Free Jumping.



Students had the opportunity to meet YouTuber Marcus Butler as well as work closely with Sebastian Foucan (inventor of free running).

Organisers were incredibly impressed with our students' positive attitude, high energy levels and general politeness throughout.

WORLD BOOK DAY – 3 March 2016 HAMPSTEAD SCHOOL READS Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Week 23 February to 4 March 2016

Jessica Kempner

For the whole Drop Everything and Read week after half term, Key Stage 3 students all read Frank Cottrell Boyce's book "Cosmic" about Florida and Liam who accidentally end up in space. To coincide with this, World Book Day on the Thursday was space themed, with different faculties taking responsibility of different planets (or satellites) and students had to guess which faculty was which, from clues given.

MFL provided an amazing array of space-themed work all day, and Performing Arts kept students guessing with all sorts of space activities, staff shared stories of books that changed their life in assembly and recommended a variety of books to students.

Drop Everything and Read is back for the final time this year in the last few weeks of the school year, students are being encouraged to look at the books in the ILC to read in the meantime.

UK MATHS CHALLENGE

We continue our success in the UK Maths Challenge, with Ms Olayinka taking Year 8 and 9 students who took the Maths challenge to Preston Manor School in February. The students spent many weeks preparing and they performed creditably, 12th out of 30 schools.

In the Intermediate Maths Challenge, Year 8 to Year 13 we received another set of good results with a medal haul of 3 gold, 17 Silver and 27 Bronze.

ENRICHMENT DAY

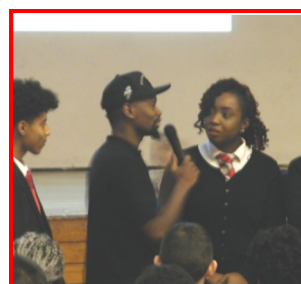
Our third Enrichment Day gave students an insight into the criminal justice system. The Year 9 group were privileged to have a series of presentations and workshops on the areas of the law that most affect them as young people. The highlight of the day was a talk given by the Author, Aneeta Prem on forced marriages.

Year 8 visited the Science Museum. The museum organised the day especially for the Hampstead School Science Faculty as the school have been taking part in the enterprising science project. Students were able to experience a range of exhibitions and hands-on activities looking at sound and how technology has changed over the last 100 years. The IMAX showing of the 'Unseen World' really got students talking about the microscopic world.

The last two Enrichment Days Years 10 and 11 Religious Studies students spent a day at St Paul's Cathedral to complement their GCSE studies on Christianity and Islam. The definite highlight of the day for both trips was the climb to the top of the Dome and seeing the views of London from on high.

Year 12 visited the University of East Anglia during the day in order to get an experience of university life.

Year 13 completed a carousel of activities which included Yoga, Insanity (Aerobics), Making Brain Food for Exams, Meditation, Mindfulness and Lush Cosmetics.



Camden & Islington Cup 6 January 2016

Dimitri Mousicos



Congratulations to our U15 boys team who were the winners of the Camden and Islington Cup.

There were some fantastic performances all around, notably by Marlon C and Ewan F. Josh D scored a screamer from outside the box and Greg managed to somehow score directly from a corner

Thank you to our team for their on-going support.

U15 CAMDEN SHIELD – 20 January 2016

Deanna Sweeny

Our team of 7 girls played Regent High in the U15 Camden Shield. The girls drew their first two games against Maria Fedelis and UCL, earning enough points to get through to the quarter finals.



They played LSU in the quarter final and unfortunately lost 1-0. Our team: Year 10 – Parris L, who was chosen as 'woman of the match', Year 8 – Emilie P, Shawntay W, Shanice B, Bryanna W, Tiyanna L and Anisa M.

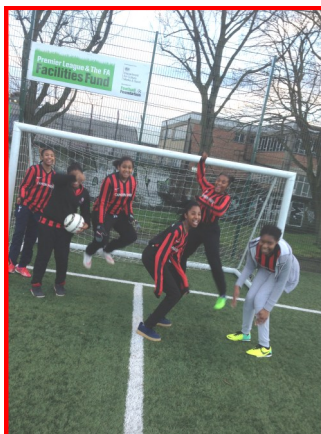
consisted of only one Y10 student. The quarter finals were a massive achievement for the girls who worked incredibly hard.

U13 CAMDEN SHIELD – 10 February 2016

Our U13 team played UCL in the final and brought the trophy home to Hampstead School. Our team: Year 8: Shawntay W, Emilie P, Tiyanna L, Anisa, who was chosen as 'Woman of the Match', Shanice B, Bryanna B; Year 7: Gemina S.



The girls worked incredibly hard in the weeks leading up to the final and were absolutely chuffed to have won. This was the second year in a row that the girls have won the competition.



BARCELONA TRIP – FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Juana Berriel & Valerie Bathore



During the half term break 50 Year 9 and Year 10 students took part in the trip to Barcelona where they visited some of the main attractions of the city and its surroundings. They also spent a half day in a Spanish school where they practiced their language skills with students who they had started to write to as a pen pal project. The students were a real credit to the school. Feedback from the students highlighted the trip as an enjoyable and positive experience.

FRENCH TRIP TO LILLE

Daniel L, Year 11

On arrival in Lille Europe, we visited the modernized financial district known as Euraille following which we walked through Vieux-Lille which is the old town of Lille. Wandering through the narrow cobblestone streets we were able to see many 17th Century brick buildings situated across the whole of this area.

After lunch we headed to the outskirts of the city centre where we visited the former Military outpost



called the Citadel. We also got to see some of Lille's main attractions such as the Grand Place (main square) and the Théâtre Sébastopol.

This was an awesome experience; from the moment we set foot off the Eurostar and started to experience the new culture around us. We were mesmerised by the calm atmosphere in this beautiful city, the kindness of strangers as we visited the tourist office and used our French language skills. We were greeted everywhere with a smile, patience and kind words on streets, at Flunch, the zoo and the various shops we visited. They were out of their comfort zone linguistically but rose to the challenge, were resilient and successful in having simple to more complicated conversations with les Lilleois.

YEAR 13 TRIP TO QUESTORS THEATRE 12 November 2015

Jyoti Careswell

Ms Careswell and Mr Sampson took a group of eight Year 13 English Language and Literature students to Questors Theatre in Ealing, to watch a live production of *The Crucible*, their set text for their A-level examination. For many members of the group, this was their first time watching live theatre and was made particularly memorable because the play was one we have been studying for several months and have particularly enjoyed.



Arthur Miller's classic American drama was set in 1692, but written in 1953, drawing parallels between the hypocrisy and suspicion experienced in the McCarthy era with the Salem Witch-hunts. The engaging production brought to life the small community of Salem which had been stirred into madness by superstition and paranoia. In particular Act 3 was an intense court scene which had us on the edge of our seats, as John Proctor contested the witchcraft trials. In this scene Abigail and the rest of the girls caught our attention through their synchronised movements and facial expressions which added to the dramatic impact of the court scene.

Lutfu S, Year 13 commented "watching the production has really brought the play to life for us, adding to our appreciation of the dramatic effects. We look forward to integrating these ideas into our work and exam responses."

HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR, HANNAH LEWIS SPEAKS TO YEAR 9

To coincide with the Holocaust Scheme of Work in History, and the Taking Responsibility Scheme of Work in PSHCE, all of Year 9 were lucky enough to have the opportunity to listen to Holocaust Survivor, Hannah Lewis.



Hannah told us about her childhood, and her tales of living through Nazi prosecution, from being put in a camp, to her father being in the resistance, and then how she coped when she moved to England. Students had a chance to ask her questions afterwards, and staff and students on reflection were moved and inspired.



ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

If your child is absent from school, for any reason, you will need to inform the school by **0900** on the day of absence by using one of the following methods:

Attendance Line - Direct Line: **020 7472 5380**

Email: attendance@hampsteadschool.org.uk

DIARY DATES – 2015–2016

[Please check the website regularly for updates]

- 11 Apr—INSET DAY [School closed to students]
- 12 Apr—All students return @ 0830
- 18–22 Apr—Year 10 Work Experience
- 20 Apr—Governors Quality Assurance Committee @ 1630
- 25 Apr—Student Leadership Council
- 4 May—Governors Site & Finance Committee @ 1700
- 19 May—Governing Body Meeting @ 1700
- 30 May—3 June—HALF TERM BREAK
- 14 June—Governors Curriculum & Assessment Committee @ 1700
- 20 June—INSET DAY (School closed to students)
- 21 June—Sixth Form Graduation
- 23 June—New Year 7 Parents Evening @ 1800
- 23 June—Jazz Concert
- 27 June—Student Leadership Council
- 28 June—Governors Site & Finance Committee @ 1700
- 29 June—New Year 7 Induction Day
- 5 July—Celebration Evening @ 1800
- 8 July—Year 11 Prom
- 11 July—Governing Body Meeting @ 1700
- 14 July—Evening with the Stars (TBC)
- 18 July—Sports Day at Willesden Sports Centre
- 20 July—LAST DAY OF TERM [Students dismissed at 1230]
- 18 Aug—A'level Exam Results
- 25 Aug—GCSE Exam Results

TERM DATES—ACADEMIC YEAR 2015—2016

Summer term 2016: 11 April—20 July 2016

Half term: 30 May—3 June 2016

Inset Day—11 April 2016

Inset Day—20 June 2016

TERM DATES—ACADEMIC YEAR 2016—2017

(Please note that these dates may be different to that of other Camden schools)

Autumn term 2016: *1 September—16 December 2016

Half term: 24 October—28 October 2016

Inset Day: 1 September [School closed to students]

Spring term : 3 January—7 April 2017

Half term: 13 February—17 February 2017

Summer term: 24 April—21 July 2017

Half term: 29 May—2 June 2017



Article 28 (right to education)

Every child has the right to an education. Secondary education must be available to every child.