

The Sonar

Your fortnightly update from West London Academy

Issue 26: 04 February 2011

It's Official: WLA in Top 4% Nationally of UK Employers

DURING January WLA was assessed for re-designation as an Investor in People (iP).

The Academy first achieved this nationally recognised award in March 2008 which makes judgments regarding our performance, against a number of criteria, including the quality of leadership and management within the organisation.

The award is highly valued as there is a clear correlation between having the standard and investing in the development of staff. It is used by thousands

of different employers of every sector and size. The Academy relies on the quality of its staff and their ability to work together for the benefit of students and the Investors in People standard has helped to raise students' achievements by giving staff opportunities to realise their potential.

The three days of assessment went so well that the Academy has moved up from the basic Investor in People Award which covers 39 standards to the enhanced Bronze Award which covers 65 standards. At present

only 4 per cent of companies nationally have achieved the Bronze Award. The assessor was glowing in her comments about the progress made and the report is extremely positive with some great comments about WLA.

"Having spent three days with the team I was constantly amazed by the incredible energy and passion that people have."

"Everyone whether, teaching

or non teaching staff is totally focused on creating a safe, positive and inspirational learning environment".

"There is an absolute and proven correlation between high levels of employee engagement and organisational success. I can think of no better example that WLA to demonstrate this in action."



INVESTORS IN PEOPLE | Bronze

Final Week Drama!



POPPY CLASS produced a final week surge last term that saw them pip Sun Class to top spot in the Autumn Term Attendance League.

Capturing the trophy by just 10 points was due to a mixture of excellent attendance and behaviour maintained throughout the term. Congratulations to Poppy Class on lifting the first ever Primary Attendance Trophy. Attention now turns to the new 'Spring Season' with Poppy class looking to retain their position as Champions.

attendance Premier League		
Position	Class	Total Class Points
1st	Poppy	255
2nd	Sun	245
3rd	Star	230
4th	Moon	195
5th	Beech	170
6th	Comet	170
7th	Elm	170
8th	Rose	170
9th	Daisy	150
10th	Ash	130
11th	Lily	85
12th	Oak	85

Final score: Poppy Class pip Sun Class for top spot in Attendance League

Don't forget to check your child's LAP Records

WLA Notices:

Uniform Shop

THE ACADEMY Uniform Shop is open every Wednesday after school from 3:30-5pm.

We are delighted to be able to accommodate student requests by introducing a WLA cardigan as a uniform option for £16.50.

You can buy uniform online from WLA by going to: <http://www.parentpayshop.com/schools/3076905/shop.html>.

Non-negotiable items

THE PRIMARY Phase would like to remind all parents that they are not to come into the school building through the playground doors at any time of the day, including after school.

This is for the safety of children and staff. If you do wish to gain access to the school for any reason please report to Reception where they will be able to help you.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents that this includes taking their children into the toilets.

If your child needs to go to the toilet before/after school, then please contact a member of staff and they will be happy to help.

Primary Phase Uniform Policy

ALL PRIMARY Phase pupils must wear a sky blue polo shirt with the Academy logo, grey trousers or skirt and a navy sweat shirt/cardigan with the Academy logo. Grey or white socks only.

Pupils must wear sensible black leather polishable shoes (no suede or boots). Trainers must not be worn instead of school shoes. Jewellery such as rings, bracelets, necklaces are prohibited.

Aerosols Prohibited at WLA

UNDER no circumstances are students to bring propellant aerosol products to school.

This includes deodorants sprays for personal care, paint, glues or any other type of aerosol product.

Not only do they pose a serious health danger they are highly flammable and environmentally unfriendly.

Book Reviews

A GROUP of WLA Children's University members visited the newly refurbished Northolt Library last term for a book reviewing session.

Librarian Heidi Souster outlined a Christmas Challenge to the pupils, who had gathered in one of the dedicated rooms off the main library area.

The challenge was similar to the Summer Library reading challenge where pupils were given the opportunity to review a book and then submit their review online or in person at the library. The reviews were displayed throughout the festive season.

There was a selection of books available to suit a wide range of ages and interests from picture books to longer stories, poetry and craft books.

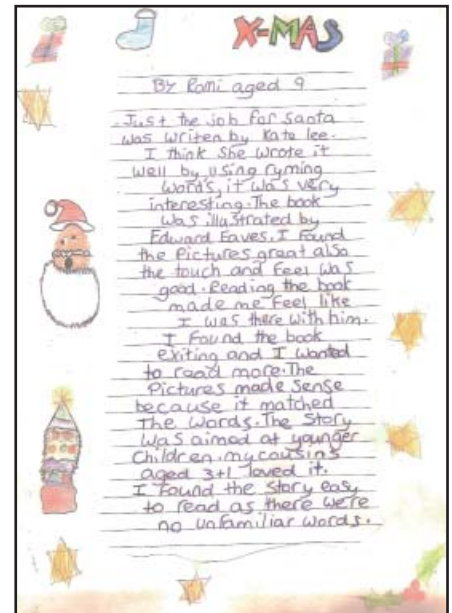
Participants gained stamps for their CU passports since Northolt Library is one of several local Learning Destinations.

The work displayed included reviews by Romi, Matthew, Yumna and Mustafa.

The reviews will become part of the Library's Children's University folder, which is on permanent display to the public.

Northolt Library runs weekend and holiday activities which qualify for CU stamps.

The Primary Phase is currently running a Spring Book Review. All reviews will be displayed in the library or at the Academy. Prizes include £10 and £20 book tokens.



Riveting: Just one of the fantastic book reviews produced by WLA Children's University students



Elevate Your Future

YEAR 9 students participated in an external workshop called 'Elevate Your Future'.

The event gave learners the opportunity to develop their Enterprise skills while raising aspirations within education and life.

The workshops finished with a presentation to a panel of judges including WLA Vice Principal Mr Canty, a local entrepreneur and a university student.

After completing the workshops the students were given certificates to commemorate their efforts. Special praise goes to Salman who was the most improved person.

Free School Meals

IN LIGHT of the current economic situation that affects us all we would like to encourage you to apply for free school meals for your child.

Application forms are available from the Academy and the criteria is clearly outlined on these.

The application process is strictly confidential and run by the Attendance Team in the High School and the Reception team in the Primary.

If your application is successful your child will not be identifiable to any other student or staff member.

Arrangements are made for the funds to be directly credited to the student's ID card on a daily basis.

Cookery Club



WLA staff during the Dried Fruit Tasting Session

FOLLOWING the successful community cooking event last term, WLA Children's University has set up a new and exciting cookery club every Tuesday after school. This will include club sessions and sessions open to the wider community.

As one of the 'Let's Get Cooking Cookery Club' community events, the children and the cooking club co-ordinator, Rohini Kapasiawala recently organised a 'Dried Fruit Tasting Session.'

16 members of staff were chosen to pair up with a club member and be blind folded. They each had to take turns in identifying the dried fruit.

Needless to say everyone had a great time and it was interesting to observe how many people could name all the dried fruits. As a 'Thank You' the club members cooked 'Moon Rocks' (similar to scones) for all the participants.

Acting Like Twits!



YEAR 4 and 5 pupils recently gave Year 10 Performing Arts students some ideas for their next drama production.

The students visited the Primary Phase for an afternoon workshop where learners shared their love of one of their favourite Roald Dahl books.

Year 10 now know why "The Twits" is such a great read, who the all time favourite characters are, and the best bits of the book.

Now it is their task to prepare a performance before an audience of Year 4 and 5 "Twits" experts - a hard crowd to please!

Everybody is looking forward to seeing the production in March. Good luck Year 10.

Enabling Enterprise



AS PART of the "Enabling Enterprise" project Year 5 pupils hit Fleet Street last week to pitch their hand made toys made entirely from recycled rubbish.

10 pupils represented WLA and proudly presented their toys to a room of 60 people at Freshfields Brukhaus Derringer law firm. Each group worked with a representative from the firm to plan a five-minute presentation which they delivered confidently to a panel of judges.

Although we did not win the final competition, Matthew, Akshat, Klara, Emony, Anees, Lewis, Katie, Callum, Teegan and Megan did WLA proud with two brilliant presentations and regular contributions to the day's discussions.

At the end of the event the children were rewarded for demonstrating the Olympic values by meeting the Olympic mascots, Wenlock and Mandeville.

Well done to all of Year 5 for showing great enterprising skills during their "Trash to Treasure" P.S.H.E lessons last term to make their toys!

English and Art Cross Curricular Achievements



Year 7 students show off their creations

STUDENTS completed some amazing drawings as part of a Year 7 English and Art Cross Curricular project.

The students read 'James and the Giant Peach' during English lessons while also looking at the characterisation of Aunt Spike and Aunt Sponge during Art sessions. The artists then gathered descriptive words and used them to create drawings of actual faces.

Everybody involved enjoyed the project and loved the final results. John from Year 7 said: "I enjoyed this because it was fun and exciting and we got to make silly faces."

See the pictures currently on display along the corridor outside the Academy Theatre.

Poppy Class Set the Pace

attendance Premier League		
Position	Class	Total Class Points
1st	Poppy	85
2nd	Beech	60
3rd	Comet	60
4th	Lily	60
5th	Moon	55
6th	Star	50
7th	Sun	50
8th	Daisy	45
9th	Elm	35
10th	Oak	35
11th	Rose	35
12th	Ash	25

PICKING up from where they left off, reigning Primary Attendance League Champions Poppy class have taken an early lead at the start of the Spring Term Season. Poppy class have made an early statement about retaining the title, however with 11 weeks still to play for it is far from over.

Food For Thought

EVERYBODY knows the importance of a healthy diet.

Sometimes however we find ourselves in a rush or too tired or busy to eat healthy.

But no matter how busy we are we should try and remember the importance of diet and follow these easy to understand Top Ten Diet Tips.

- 1: Eat a wide range or variety of foods.
- 2: If you are very active you may need to eat more
- 3: If you are not very active you may need to eat less
- 4: Starchy foods like wholemeal bread and wholegrain cereals are an important part of our diet.

5: We all need some proteins such as meat, fish, eggs and lentils.

6: Fruit and vegetables are great for us – we should eat them as much as possible!

7: We need to drink water regularly

8: Cut down on chocolate, and sweets

9: Cut down on fried and fatty foods

10: Enjoy your food! It's one of life's pleasures.

These practical tips can help you make healthier choices.

A healthy diet contains a variety of foods including fruit, vegetables and starchy foods such as wholemeal bread and wholegrain cereals, some protein-rich foods such as meat and fish, eggs, milk and dairy foods.

Remember your PE Kit

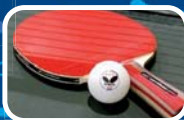
THE PE and Sport Department would like to remind parents/carers that a proper PE kit is vital to ensure maximum learning for students in PE and Sport Lessons.

When the weather turns cold lessons will still be outside, so please ensure that your child has appropriate WLA PE items including tracksuit bottoms and jumper which can be purchased from the Academy Uniform Shop.

In extreme cold weather students are permitted to wear sports gloves and a black or navy woolly hat at the member of staff's discretion.

Community Sports Centre

Half Term Activities February 2011



What would
you like
to do?



Monday 21st February

Climbing Price £3.50
10.00-11.15am

Go Kart Racing Price: 50p
11.30-12.30pm

Football Price: 50p
1.00-2.00pm

Tuesday 22nd February

Golf Price: 50p
10.00-11.15am

Go Kart Racing Price: 50p
11.30-12.30pm

Football Price: 50p
1.00-2.00pm

Wednesday 23rd February

Climbing Price £3.50
10.00-11.15am

XBOX and Wii Price: 50p
11.30-12.30pm

Football Price: 50p
1.00-2.00pm

Thursday 24th February

Golf Price: 50p
10.00-11.15am

Go Kart Racing Price: 50p
11.30-12.30pm

Football Price: 50p
1.00-2.00pm

Friday 25th February

Climbing Price £3.50
10.00-11.15am

Indoor 5-a-side
football Price: 50p
11.30-12.30pm

Table Tennis Price: 50p
1.00-2.30pm

How to book an activity:

An activity booking form must be completed in advance of each session you are looking to take part in:

1. Drop into the Academy and book at Reception
2. Call 020 8842 7930 or 020 8841 4511 and speak to a member of the Sports Centre team.
3. Email us at: cscm@westlondonacademy.co.uk
4. Fax your completed form to 020 8841 4480 and we will call to confirm your booking.
5. Visit our website www.wlacsc.co.uk to download a booking form and view our facilities.

Courses that run over the half term prove to be very popular; we therefore advise you to book early to avoid disappointment. Closing date for bookings is **Saturday 19th February 2011**