



**WEST LONDON
ACADEMY**
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TERM TIMES

Operation Christmas Child

THE ACADEMY would like to thank everyone for their amazing efforts and generosity for this year's Shoebox Appeal.

In November the Academy sent an incredible 75 boxes full of gifts including small toys, games, colouring books, pens, pencils toothbrushes and sweets to the Samaritan's Purse charity.

WLA also raised an amazing £203.35 to cover the cost of transportation.

This year our shoeboxes will be going to children in Mozambique in Africa.



Star Quality comes to WLA

WLA hosted the London launch of Adidas' adiStars new on-line sports game at a ceremony at WLA in October.

Joining students at the event were Adidas ambassadors including English cricketer Kevin Pietersen and Olympic 400 metres gold medal winner Christine Ohuruogu.

At a special assembly held in the Academy Theatre the audience was treated to a video message from England footballer David Beckham and a question and answer session, led by Year 13 student Amie who is the Academy's Platinum Young Ambassador.

Afterwards the event moved to the Academy Sports Hall where Kevin and Christine joined students in a specially arranged Table Tennis (TT) session. Mr Pietersen was particularly interested to learn some TT skills from our students and coaches before trying his luck against WLA's English School Champion Daniel.



WLA Pupils Graduate Children's University

WLA's Children's University (CU) celebrated its first graduation ceremony at Brunel University in July.

The prestigious occasion rewarded those pupils who attended CU clubs and activities outside Academy hours.

Dressed in university caps and gowns for the evening the proud

graduates were presented silver and bronze certificates by Sir Robert Balchin, Pro-Chancellor Brunel University.

The ceremony included keynote speeches from Professor Ken Darby-Dowman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Brunel, WLA Principal and Chief Executive Dr Hilary Macaulay, and Ger Graus, Chief Executive National

Children's University. Afterwards the newly-minted graduates went outside for photographs with their parents and the traditional cap-throwing ceremony.

Speaking to Term Times WLA's CU Coordinator Joanna Chodzko-Zajko said:

"The children were absolutely fabulous and a credit to themselves, their parents and the Academy.

"I am really looking forward to next year's graduation at Brunel University."





Historians Hit the Trenches

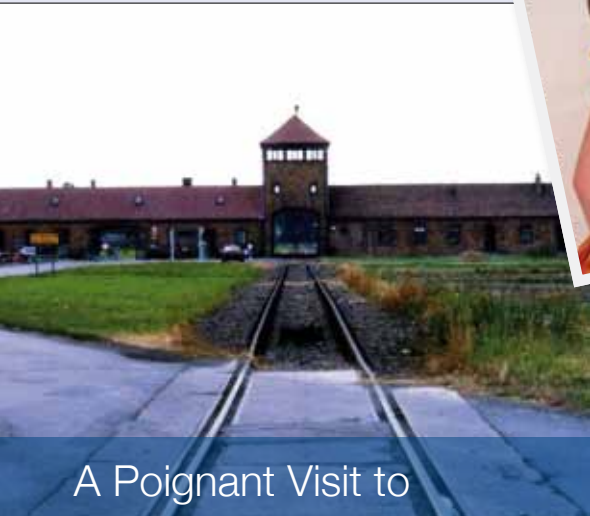
WLA recently made a History trip to the World War One (WW1) battlefields in Belgium.

38 students visited the Flanders Field Museum, learning about life in the trenches. They also studied artefacts including gas masks and weaponry.

They then went on a tour of the battlefields visiting the Langemark and Tyne Cot cemeteries.

Making their way through Hill 16 the historians considered what it must have been like for servicemen fighting in the trenches. They only had to be in the cold and mud for an hour; the soldiers were there for months on end.

The final stop was at the Mein Gate Memorial. As a mark of respect the students laid a wreath of poppies in memory of those who fought and died in WW1 and other global conflicts.



A Poignant Visit to Auschwitz

SIXTH form IB Diploma students Sam and Radhika made a poignant visit to the former Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz in October.

The trip to Poland began in the early hours with a 5am rendezvous at Luton Airport.

Arriving at Auschwitz at midday the two students were given a full tour of the concentration camps based in Auschwitz; Auschwitz 1 and Auschwitz 2 (Birkenau), the latter being the purpose built extermination camp.

The trip ended with a service delivered by a rabbi from the Holocaust trust. Radhika and Sam are now working on a presentation to deliver to WLA about Auschwitz and its importance today.



Textiles Carnival Project

YEAR 10 students have completed a Textiles project based on carnival costumes.

The assignment focused on textiles techniques such as print, free-hand machine embroidery, hand stitching and decorative embellishing.

WLA's budding fashion designers also explored the use of colour through dyeing, stitching and layering techniques.

Studying and referring to works by designers such as John Galliano, renowned for his theatrical take on fashion, the students focused on layering, embellishing and playing with scale.

Pictured here are just a few examples of the magnificent designs made. Maybe one day we will see them dancing their way through the streets of Notting Hill!

Pupils Enjoy a Taste of Thai Music

YEAR 6 pupils attended a Thai Music Workshop at the Asian Music Centre in Acton.

The workshop provided pupils with the opportunity to listen to traditional Thai music, learn some basic Thai phrases and have a chance to use the instruments in small work groups.

This was a unique opportunity for the pupils as the Thai musicians were on a short tour of the UK and only in London for a few of days.

The most popular instrument on the day was the Rammana, a Thai drum played with the hand.



SAVING LONDONERS LIVES

IN NOVEMBER pupils from Poppy Class in the Primary Phase entered the Saving Londoners' Lives Frisbee competition.

The event was organised to raise the profile of the Saving Londoners' Lives First Aid training in schools across the UK.

The competition asked for photos of children holding a special Frisbee in an unusual location, in a curriculum moment or with someone famous. Prizes include £25

National Book Tokens, interactive games from the British Heart Foundation including a DodgeBall Kit, and a Healthy Living Kit and First Aid training for adults run by St John Ambulance.

Saving Londoners' Lives First Aid courses continue to run in the Primary and the High School and provide students with valuable life saving skills.



“ My aims for Internal Exclusion are that students can understand that we all make mistakes, but the important thing is to learn from them and not keep repeating them. ”



Who's Who at WLA

Debbie Cunningham

Educational Behaviour Support Officer

WLA Wins Science Award

EIGHT intrepid Year 9 students won a prestigious science award in September. The Serious About Science competition is designed to encourage young talented people to consider a career in science.

The event was hosted and organised by the Worshipful Company of Ironmongers - one of the most prestigious guilds in the City of London - who provide scholarships of up to £5,000 for students who wish to go to university.

The Gifted and Talented students won the award after attending the competition at the Mermaid Conference and Events Centre in Central London.

The fact that WLA won first prize is a fantastic achievement considering 250 students from 20 schools across the capital competed in the event.

Maths the Cambridge Way UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

WLA mathematicians enjoyed an inspirational day of maths courtesy of a Cambridge University graduate.

The number crunchers, many of who recently passed their GCSE maths exam early, worked in groups to solve mathematical problems.

Under the guidance of the tutor they also learned how maths can explain things that happen in real life.

Organised by the NRICH Project at Cambridge University, the project aims to enrich the experiences of learners by offering challenging and engaging maths activities.

The day was a great success because not only did students thoroughly enjoy themselves, they developed their subject knowledge, problem-solving and mathematical thinking skills.

Tell us about your role

My role is Educational Behaviour Support Officer which means working with students who have broken Academy Rules.

How has your experience of working here been so far?

Totally positive.

How does working in an Academy differ to your previous experience?

I have worked in an academy before, but this one has a special feel to it, particularly the integration with the John Chilton School, the facilities and of course the food in the Restaurant.

Where were you working before coming to WLA?

I worked at Stockley Academy for three years in the same role. Prior to that I was at Queensmead School in South Ruislip for seven years.

What has been the highlight of your time at WLA so far?

The best part about my time here so far has been the friendliness of the staff and students which has helped massively in my first term at WLA.

What are you looking forward to in the future?

I am looking forward to a time when the Internal Exclusion Room is empty because all the students are behaving perfectly - we're nearly there!

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Any spare time is usually taken up with spending time with my own four children, who range from age 17-27, and my latest family addition 'Romeo', my five month old Persian kitten. I also love musical theatre and going to watch my daughter perform in her band.

A New Service for Parents

WLA's Adult Education Centre (AEC) recently launched a Work Focussed Service for parents/carers.



Working with the Limetrees Children Centre and other services across Northolt, the aim of the project is to 'up skill' parents/carers to better prepare them for the job market.

Maihan Hamed, the AEC's Skills and Employment Coordinator said: "We provide one-to-one advice and guidance sessions on how to find jobs, writing CVs and completing applications forms, interview preparation and confidence-building. We also offer access and advice on benefits, training and job opportunities through Job Centre Plus."

The service is available to parents/carers with children aged five and younger. For more information contact Maihan on 020 8842 7937.



Conquering Mount Kilimanjaro

WLA Assistant Registrar Manisha Taeler achieved a life ambition by conquering Mount Kilimanjaro.

She scaled the gruelling 5896 meter mountain in Tanzania to raise money for St Luke's Hospice in Harrow.

Speaking to Term Times the intrepid explorer said: "Like many WLA students who are working towards targets I set myself the goal of raising money, but also the goal of climbing the mountain. You will be amazed with what you can achieve when you put your mind to it."

When Lord Coe Met WLA

THERE are few occasions when the opportunity arises to meet someone who has achieved great things at the very pinnacle of their profession.

These special people are inspirational to one and all and so it was that Lord Sebastian Coe, double Olympic Gold Medal Winner, multi millionaire, one time holder of a host of World Records at 800 and 1500 metres, had the opportunity to meet two of West London Academy's finest Post 16 students, Hailu and Mark.

At a ceremony held in Brent in front of the nation's press, Lord Coe presented WLA with a plaque to mark its successful application to become a member of the London Olympic Games Organising Committee's (LOGOC) Get Set Network. Priority tickets for the Games will be just one benefit to everyone at WLA.



Photograph by Denzel Johnson

Pictured with Lord Coe is Hailu (centre) and Mr Canty (right)

WEST LONDON ACADEMY



Community Sports Centre



West London Academy's impressive sporting facilities are available to hire NOW!

Don't miss out...

Places on our February Half Term activity sessions can be booked from Thursday 6 January 2011.

Information will be available to download or pick up from the High School Reception from Tuesday 4 January.

Facilities available to hire include: Sports Hall, Gymnasium, Artificial Training Pitch, Multi-use Games Area, Dance Studio.

For bookings and general enquiries please contact Centre Manager Andrew Ackrell on 0208 842 7930 or via cscm@westlondonacademy.co.uk

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

www.wlacsc.co.uk



Another National Title for Igor

Table Tennis (TT) player Igor has won another championship title.

The Year 10 student stormed to victory at the Junior National Championship in Hatfield, winning both the Under 15 Singles and Doubles titles.

Igor plays for the Greenhouse TT Club under the watchful eye of WLA coach Jason Sugrue, himself a former British Champion and Irish Number One.



Olympian Jams with WLA Musicians

WLA hosted a Music and Sport workshop in conjunction with the Youth Sport Trust and Musical Futures.

In attendance was special guest Natasha Danvers, who won bronze for the hurdles in the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

The aim of the day was to explore the links between sport and music, and how

they can work together to inspire student learning in both subjects and across the curriculum.

Using the sounds of sport as stimuli, the musicians created an arrangement of music to be developed leading up to and beyond London 2012.

Olympian Natasha was involved in the workshop and students imaginatively created the background music to the race where she won her bronze medal.