



# QUEST

A COLOMA ACADEMY

LEARNING CHANGES LIVES

NEWSLETTER  
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SPRING '17

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## Principal's Message

Spring is in the air and we are now able to use both our buildings and newly landscaped outside spaces to their fullest potential. We really do now have first class facilities to add to a first class learning environment as you will see whenever you visit us.

I couldn't let this edition of the newsletter go by without mentioning the fabulous production of 'Hairspray' recently. It was a truly excellent performance as many of you can testify personally. Thank you for your support and my sincerest appreciation to the cast, crew and Mr Kensit for their dedication to the project. Roll on next year...

Next term external examinations begin in the upper school and Sixth Form. Revision should already be well underway. Please do ask to see your children's revision plans and their notes and give them a quiet dedicated space to study.

Many research projects have conclusively shown that the two most important factors in examination success are sleep and hydration. With that in mind, please ensure your children arrive each day refreshed and after having had a good breakfast. This will help set them up for some long days ahead!

Exam success is not a chance event: you need to plan, revise and practice for success: 'effort achieves'.

With best wishes for the Easter break,

Mr. A. Crofts

## Hairspray!



**Early in the Spring Term, 35 students from all year groups, teamed together to put on what was arguably the best production the Quest has ever seen, "Hairspray". From Year 7 students in the role of Council members to Year 11 students playing lead roles and everything in between, the whole Academy got behind this production, which was no mean feat!**

The cast rehearsed two or three times a week for five months running up to opening night, even through weekends and Inset days. And there were some challenges along the way!

It all came together by opening night, which saw more than 200 parents and other members of the community enjoy an evening of fantastic acting, singing, costumes and fun. The 2nd night was also packed out, the atmosphere even better now that the cast were really in the swing of it.

Special thanks must go to everyone who was involved in the process, both on and off stage.



# National Careers Week



This year The Quest Academy embraced National Careers Week. Students in KS3 and KS4 were provided employability skills passports. Throughout the course of the week, students identified various skills that they demonstrated within their lessons and had these evidenced by members of staff.

In addition to the fantastic work that the students were doing throughout the Academy, staff from all faculties joined in with the fun. All teaching staff displayed door posters demonstrating the skills they had developed from previous employment as well as showing the wide range of roles they had been employed in.

The Quest Academy also joined forces with Coloma Convent Girls' School and students from Year 8 -13 were invited to attend their careers fair where companies such as the NHS were promoting the broad spectrum of jobs available in their sector. We are now looking forward to National Careers Week 2018.

## H. Budd



# Explosive Food - The Royal Institute of Science

On Friday, 10th February, Dan from The Royal Institute of Science gave an interactive session on food and nutrition and its potential to improve an athlete's performance. He showed Quest students how food is essential to our survival and how our bodies process it.

Students who had shown great aptitude in maths, science and PE were then given a project on which they would need to share skills and collaborate.

A workshop was given to parents and teachers on how they can best support students in the project.

## The Students' Brief

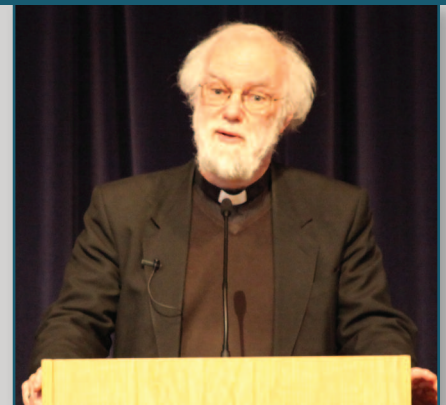
The main aim of the challenge set was to provide further learning opportunities to guide students into developing independence, enable them to work with students in other disciplines who have already demonstrated exceptional ability in that subject and entice them into activities what are worthy of their very serious attention.

**Mission:** Consult with and support our best athletes by providing them with an exercise and nutrition programme to enhance their performance.

Students consulted with each other and, where necessary, their teacher, regarding how to prepare and research. Fitness logs, diaries of performance and nutrition all featured as part of this work.

# Lord Williams Lecture

On Friday 3rd February evening, Year 12 and 13 students were given the opportunity to attend a lecture by Right Reverend Rowan Williams, hosted by Whitgift School.



The Most Reverend and Right Honourable The Lord Williams of Oystermouth is one of the world's most preeminent and significant 21st Century theologians. Spending much of his early career as an academic at Cambridge and Oxford universities successively, before serving as the Archbishop of Canterbury, 2002-2012, Lord Williams now sits as a crossbench peer in the House of Lords and acts as Master of Magdalene College, Cambridge.

This special one-hour lecture provided students with a unique and rare opportunity to hear from, and question, one of the most significant individuals in contemporary British life. Lord Williams used the story of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German Lutheran pastor, and key anti-Nazi dissident in the interwar years, to reflect on some of the most profound and pressing political, ethical and theological challenges facing the contemporary age. His ideas were thought-provoking, pressing and deeply engaging, conveyed with a power and humbleness that students found captivating.

## B. Russell



## K+ News Report

**K+ is a two-year programme of events, activities and academic workshops created to help support university application and provide the skills needed to reach potential as an undergraduate student.**

Year 12 student, Ibtissam Adem, took part in January. He says, "Being part of the K+ programme has offered me a number of valuable opportunities, such as accessing every King's College London Library. On

the 25th January I visited Kings College London Guys Campus where we received an informative lecture about Physics and Biology by a Doctor who has a PhD in Biophysics. I came to realise how interdisciplinary all the sciences are.

Following this, we engaged in a Chemistry Lab session, during which we learnt how to make Slime in a very advanced and professional laboratory. We then found out what happens when acid and a base is added to slime and importantly what the science behind it is.



The practical aspect of a science based degree is vital.

It was a very successful day where I experienced the different teaching styles at university which gives me an idea of what it will be like."

## New Recruits Camp - February



**Across the country, we felt the biting cold of seasonal snow showers and brisk winds. For our new recruits, this simple but effective additional factor to the challenges cadets undertake made this an even more momentous occasion that united our contingent and made for memories that will last for a lifetime.**

The weekend began with fitness tests, preparation and a meal together at Trinity School. We then travelled to our base for our activities and returned at 5.00pm on Sunday, 12th February.

New recruit participants this year were: Yemi Abe, Amy Baker Sanders, Reece Carney, Ryan Donnelly, Cameron Edwards-Powell, Justin Hageman, Osama Issa, Jamie Kirk, Ben Lane, Louis Le Vine, Josh Lloyd, Callum Miller, Edgar Puplampu, Michael Reapy, Thomas Robinson, Sabiha Sadiqua and our NCO Esther Simoli.

We are grateful to SSI Millbanks, Lieutenant Tarn, Mr Moran, Mr Pearce and Miss Diamond for facilitating and staffing this event and to Trinity NCOs led by Ridhwan Omar.

For all of our cadets involved in this exercise, this was an opportunity to work together and to strengthen the links with the NCOs, new recruits, staff and officers at Trinity school. All of the cadets participated fully in the parade, field, navigation, walking, night exercises and field activities. All undertook the PT, trim-trail and obstacle course.

Without exception, every cadet showed dedication, commitment and maturity and gave of his or her best.

**2Lt. Mcleod**



## Tribute to Daniel Spargo-Mabbs



On Friday 10th February, Quest students were invited to attend a performance of 'I Love You, Mum – I Promise I Won't Die' in the main hall. The play is based on the story of local teen Daniel Spargo-Mabbs, whose life was cut short aged 16 when he took the drug MDMA at a rave. It was commissioned by the DSM Foundation after Daniel's death to help young people understand the risks and consequences of taking drugs.

The two-act play follows the events leading up to Daniel's death, as well as the reactions from his friends and family when they find out about his death. The acting is superb and it is a very engaging and emotional play – there were few dry eyes by the end! 'I Love You, Mum' received very positive feedback from students, who said that it was an 'amazing performance' and that it gave them a lot to think about. The performance was followed by an interactive workshop delivered by the actors.

**L. Stotesbury**



## Harry Potter World Trip

**On Academy Day, 41 excited students boarded a bus to be transferred schools... to Hogwarts!**

Year 7 and 8 students went on a fantastic tour to see 'Behind the Scenes' of the Harry Potter franchise: visiting the Great Hall, Dumbledore's office and The Cupboard Under the Stairs where Harry's journey began.

Students and staff were left amazed by what was on offer: They learned all the tricks of the trade, filming secrets and the intricacies of the spectacular sets. The students loved every

minute and truly immersed themselves in all things Harry Potter: drinking Butterbeer, boarding the Hogwarts Express and even riding a broomstick (new GCSE option, anyone?!)



Mr Cotton and Ms Dukes, still smarting from their rejection from Hogwarts at the age of 11, were on a personal mission to convert Mrs Jeffrey to being a true fan. The sheer brilliance of the tour helped them to achieve their aim!

The tour ended with a spectacular look at a model version of the school which left students wondering how students could make it between towers (!) in only five minutes... and how fit they must get too!

A day enjoyed by all. We apologise if your son or daughter now asks for a pet Owl or Frog...

**M. Cotton**

## The Quest Academy Trip to HMS Belfast

**With so much to see and do on HMS Belfast, our students found much to fascinate them. They had donned their walking shoes to see all that was going on along the Thames as we walked from London Bridge to the battleship.**

We took time to see everything that the battleship had to offer and

students got to see some of the renovation and maintenance work as well as the fascinating displays and models of sailors about their daily business. The visit would not have been complete without seeing the huge torpedo on the ship and the models of dental work and surgery that the sailors endured on board.

Visiting this wonderful ship and having time with their fellow classmates expanded the students' awareness and made for a valuable and memorable experience.

**L. Mcleod**



## Ice Skating

**On Thursday 9th February, 80 excited students from KS3 opted for the ice skating trip to Streatham Ice Rink for their Academy Day.**

After a short journey on public transport, the students and staff organised their skates and hit the ice. Plenty of falls, trips, laughs and even student vs teacher races to create a very enjoyable and sociable day out of all!

**E. Keady**



## Theatre Visit

**On Thursday 15th December, 35 Year 7 students were lucky enough to go to the New Wimbledon Theatre to watch a star-studded version of Dick Whittington. It was certainly a glitzy show, full of "pizzazz"! The Quest students joined in with all of the shenanigans.**

What made the event even more special is that all of the students were given an ice cream at the interval!

The cohort were model students on the tram rides, both there and back.

It was a wonderful beginning to the festive season, as well as showcasing a cultural event not seen on other shores.

**G. Kensit**





## Year 7 Boys' Football

An excellent first season for the Year 7 boys' football team. After winning the majority of their matches it is evident that they have gelled well together as a team, leaving a positive outlook for their next few seasons here at The Quest Academy.



## Year 9, 10 and 11 Girls Football

The U16 girls' team often attended fixtures with the bare 11 but demonstrated some excellent hard work and determination during their games. Specifically Lauren Apps who showed great skill and composure on the ball in both the attacking and defensive area throughout the season.



## QAPA Quiz Night

The Quest Academy Parents' Association (QAPA) is happy to announce that a Quiz Night has been scheduled for Friday 9th June at 7:00pm. All parents, carers and other adults associated with the Academy are invited to attend.

Please contact the school to express your interest.

## Year 7 and 8 Girls football

With a fresh cohort starting The Quest Academy this was the perfect opportunity to recruit for the U14 girls' football team, and trials did not disappoint. Over the season they have had a number of fixtures and tournaments. Despite results not always going our way, the attitude and commitment the girls have displayed is something they should all be very proud of. If the girls continue with this positive attitude. There is no doubt that next season will be a great success for them.

## Year 10/11 Football

The football season started with great anticipation as the Year 10 and Year 11 boys combined to make one team. Competition was high, and after a number of training sessions learning to play together, the team had their first match. It was a cup match against our rivals Lanfranc, which unfortunately we lost 5-3. The game was played in an excellent spirit and for long parts of the game it looked like The Quest Academy would walk away with the win, but sadly our defensive abilities didn't quite match our scoring!

In the league the squad have had a mixed bag of results and current sit mid table with a couple of games still to play. The team's ability to go forward and create chances has never failed and goal of the season so far goes to Callum Brind for an unstoppable shot from outside the area. All in all a good season, and I'm sure the Year 10s will look to build upon their hard work next year.

## Year 8 Netball



The Year 8 Girls netball team have had a particularly successful season. They have played every fixture in the league except one. The other school were unable to arrange a date to suit.

The squad have been committed to training regularly and have even dealt with a few injury problems meaning some change to their positions. Overall the girls have performed extremely well, winning the league and having a particularly good goal difference. Hopefully the girls will continue their success into next season and continue to progress as a team

Year 8 D3							
Team Name	Played	Won	Drawn	Loss	Goals Scored	Goals Against	Goals +/-
Quest	5	4	0	1	49	22	26 21
Gasis Coulsdon	4	1	1	2	16	11	5 12
Tensions B	3	1	1	1	16	19	-3 8
Norbury Manor	3	1	0	2	11	26	-15 7
Meriden	2	1	0	1	4	6	-2 5
Lanfranc	1	0	0	1	2	13	-11 0

\*\*\*Penalties Applied - Please see Results Table



## London Youth Games

On Thursday 16th March, Mr Bevan took a group of six Year 10/11 students to help at the London Youth Games Rugby finals. The students supported with the running of the primary school event, they were a credit to the academy and worked incredibly hard all day.

The students who attended were: Daniel Ankomah, Bryant Bawuah, Myles McDonald, Kirsty Bateman, Ellie-May Duff and Lauren Apps.





## Year 7 Netball

The Year 7 Netball Team have had a fantastic season! They have worked so hard to form a strong team bond and won 4 out of their 6 games!

We have had different members of the team be voted player of the match by opponents, which wins them the captain's badge for the next game!

A massive congratulations to

the following for taking part: Daniella Buchanan, Rosana Do Nascimento Davide, Paris McLean, Aaliyah Peart, Mikyelah Raphael-Morgan, Akiza Barata, Savannah Blayney, Julia Kolodziej and Oumou Bari who have all represented the Academy this year!

Bring on the season next year!

### E. Wicks

## Year 7 Rugby

It's been a turbulent season for the fledgling Year 7 rugby team, who over the course of their short playing career have demonstrated a serious amount of grit, athleticism and not least rugby talent.



Training started early in the Autumn term and the boys were quick to find their feet on the pitch, despite few having any previous experience at the sport. Their first game saw Quest demolish the opposition with notable performances from Hakim Abdulah and Giovanni Andrade. From there the boys went from strength to strength, storming their way to a second victory with an impressive display of ball-handling, some excellent strike running and formidable rucking talent from Tahsaan 'the boulder' Gittings and Adam 'freight-train' Edwards.

The season was concluded with mammoth 5-team tournament in upper Norwood. Coupled with a flat tyre and a lack of training, Quest's final position wasn't favourable however the boys are looking optimistically towards the last game of the season.

An excellent first season for all – well done.

## Year 8 Rugby



All in all, the 2016-17 season was a little disappointing for the Year 8 boys' team. They played some fantastic rugby at times and should be very proud of their efforts but came up short in some close matches.

What has been really positive is the increased level of interest from the year group with more boys playing this season when compared to last. I am sure that with this increased interest and with a more committed attitude, this team can do very well as we move forward.

There were some excellent individual performances with Javony Whitter and Ibrahim Ouattarra scoring tries at will and exceptional leadership from Bola Noiki, Connor Rumbelow, Nathan Dewsbury and Ali Ghasemi.

## Golf

**Every Monday, Mr Bevan takes a number of students in Years 7-10 to Addington Court Golf Centre for some lessons from experienced golf professional, Alex Macgregor.**



The students have learnt everything from driving to putting, have played on the course and even had a go at footgolf!



The sessions have been thoroughly enjoyable and the students have behaved impeccably and represented the academy superbly.

## Important dates for your diary...

### TERM DATES

**Last day of term** Friday 31st March 2017

**Easter Holiday** Monday 3rd April – Monday 17th April

**INSET day closed to students** Tuesday 18th April  
(Year 11, 12, 13 students in school)

**First day of term** Wednesday 19th April

**Bank Holiday- Academy closed** Monday 1st May

**INSET day closed to students** Tuesday 2nd May

**Half Term** Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

**Summer holiday** Monday 24th July – Friday 1st September

### PARENTS EVENINGS

**Year 8 Options Evening** Thursday 30th March 3pm – 7pm (by appointment)

**Year 7 Parents Evening** Thursday 18th May 4pm – 7pm

### OTHER EVENTS

**Year 7 trip** April 19th – 21st

**QAPA Quiz Night** Friday 9th June 5pm – 8pm

**Sports Presentation Evening** Thursday 22nd June 5pm – 7pm

**Academy Day** Wednesday 28th June

**Year 11 Work Experience** Monday 3rd July – Friday 14th July

**Quest's Got Talent** Thursday 13th July 5pm – 7pm

**Presentation Evenings** 17th & 18th July

### ACADEMY AT WORK TOURS – 11am

Monday 24th April

Monday 15th May

Monday 12th June

Monday 10th July