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Principal's Message

Dear Parents / Carers

Thank you for your continued support of our Academy as we strive to be truly

outstanding in the education we provide for your children.

Partnership is very important to us and we do hope that you will consider attending one of our parents' association meetings (QAPA) held each term – there is a page on our website specifically for this and a

contact form if you would like to be involved.

As usual there has been a plethora of extra-curricular trips, visits and fixtures taking place this term. One way to keep up with anything sport related is the PE faculty's twitter feed: @TQAPE – some impressive wins this year already in football and netball to name but two.

We're also beginning to get excited about this year's whole school production of Les Misérables. I do hope that you will come

and see it between the 11th and 13th February 2020. Tickets on sale in the new year.

Finally, I do hope you have an enjoyable Christmas break and that we have time to reflect on all that is positive in the world as we look forward to the new year.

With seasonal best wishes,

Mr A Crofts

My Quest Journey and First Give



Within their My Quest Journey class, Year 8s are participating in the First Give programme.

Each class has selected their charity to raise money for and have begun the process of raising money with their own events and activities around the school.

The charities selected are: The South-East Cancer Hub, The Whitgift Foundation, Lives Not Knives, St. Christopher's Hospice, Garwood Foundation, and Bromley and Croydon Women's Aid.



The pupils have been engaged and excited by the different activities that they are in control of and creating. From film evenings, to bake sales to games tables – no area has been left unturned to raise money for local charities in Croydon!

The pupils showed great initiative to win the £1,000 prize from First Give for their chosen charity.

Keep an eye on the Academy website to stay tuned for images and updates on the pupils' work.



Quest Academy Visits Skills London 2019



The UK's biggest jobs and careers event returned to London ExCeL arena on 15th and 16th of November this year.

Skills London targets 15-24 year olds and brings them together with hundreds of employers from public, voluntary and private sectors, apprenticeship providers, careers advisors, and both higher and further education institutions. Simply put, it is the careers event of the year not to miss.

Nearly 200 students from Year 11 and Year 12 joined the 40,000 other young Londoners exploring potential career opportunities and picking the brains of experts as they sought to discover what their future might bring them.

Be informed, be inspired to aspire, and determine your own future were the messages of this hugely popular and successful gathering.

A fantastic event and a fantastic opportunity to start thinking forward for all those that attended.

R Houghton

Visit to Cambridge University

On Academy Day, Year 12 visited Cambridge University. It was an opportunity for our students to visit one of the most successful and prestigious universities in the world and get an insight into the types of degrees they could study there. It also gave the students an understanding of what it may be like, being a university student.



The students enjoyed their experience of being in such a beautiful city and indeed navigating the town.

Students enjoyed the experience and were lucky enough to see a graduation taking place also, at Kings College!

Y Blankson

A Taste of University

This conference was an opportunity for year 10s to experience the teaching environment at Roehampton University.

They attended three taster sessions: Criminology, Drama/Theatre and Human Rights. This was led by senior members of staff, who introduced them to subjects taught at university in an accessible and interactive manner. This gave the students an insight into understanding the range of career and work opportunities available that links to Higher Level learning.

University ambassadors were on hand to answer any questions regarding university life, scholarships and finance. A great day all round.

M D'Mello



Year 9 Introduction to University

We arrived at Goldsmiths University and were greeted by the University ambassadors. The day began with a welcome presentation, followed by team building, ice breakers, and lots of fun activities and some basic information about higher education.

Topics covered included the benefits of going to University, connections between what they study now and what they could study at university as well as personal and academic skills for higher level learning/study.

Students got to see the campus, have lunch, made friends from other schools and wanted to know when the next NCOP event was.

M D'Mello



NCOP - UCAS and University Preparation



The Quest Academy is part of the National Collaborative Outreach Project (NCOP), which involves a number of students from Years 9 to Year 13.

This term, ten year 11 students attended Goldsmiths University in London on Tuesday 31st October 2019. This event was about equipping students with skills which come in useful during the last year of secondary school, specifically ones that relates to preparing for and passing their GCSE exams. University ambassadors were there to help situate year 11s and to answer any questions that would enhance their choices before they leave secondary school.



Trip to the Cartoon Museum



The cartoon museum had drawings and cartoons in a variety of styles with many messages being interpreted through these. Most of these cartoon drawings mentioned politics in them; a form of satirical humour.

The drawings were very unique and striking as some were vibrant as well as colourful but still abstract and notable. However, some of the art was difficult to understand in what the artist was trying to portray with some unclear meaning. Overall, it was an enjoyable visit with lots learned about artist comics.

Riya Roby 10.2

Visit to Duxford War Museum

Year 10 students visited the Imperial War Museum at Duxford on 16th October. The museum is Britain's largest aviation museum. Duxford houses the museum's large exhibits, including nearly 200 aircraft, military vehicles, artillery and minor naval vessels in seven main exhibition buildings. It is a breath-taking exhibition.



The students were fascinated by the museum's other collections of material such as film, photographs, documents, books and artefacts.

The site accommodates several British Army regimental museums, including those of the Parachute Regiment and the Royal Anglian Regiment.

L McLeod

Welcome to our New Recruits!



The Quest Academy cadets enjoyed their first success in passing their drill test on 9th December.

Under the first class teaching of Lt Pearce and Sergeant Donnelly, these cadets have learnt and practised drill weekly since they joined the cadet force on 18th November.

So far this term, they have learnt how to wear and take care of their uniform, ORBAT and All Service Badges of rank and drill.

Next term they will learn navigation, orienteering, living in the field and weapons systems. They will also participate in Heartstart to gain a First Aid qualification.

Congratulations to: K'cee Berry, George Brown, Savannah Campbell-La'Val, Shanum Ghouse, Shanze Howson Bernard, Asia Lorint, Nastascia Riley, Zicheriah Sarfo-Akyeampong, and many thanks to senior cadets Savannah Blayney, Kieran Greaves, and Corporal Julia Kolodziej, for helping them to achieve this success.

Lt McLeod

GCSE Geography Field Trip

On Wednesday 25th September, Year 11 Geography had an extremely successful day by the coast where they visited Walton-on-the-Naze as part of their fieldwork requirement for their GCSE exam.

Their aim for the day was to investigate how management affects Longshore Drift at Walton-on-the-Naze and develop an opinion on the strategies in place.

On arrival, students could see the Naze tower and learnt about the history of the area, finding out that the coastline was at extreme risk of erosion due to its geology and position and therefore a variety of coastal management techniques were in place to protect it.

Students then worked in groups to compare the managed section of the beach with the unmanaged section. Starting with the managed beach, they conducted a beach profile using a dumpy level, ranging staff and tape measure.

Students also completed a groyne profile and a sediment analysis all in the morning. We then all had lunch together while looking out over the North Sea, and before doing the same methods on the unmanaged section of the beach in the afternoon.



Since returning to school, students have been working very hard presenting their results and writing up their findings in order to come to a conclusion ready for their exam in the summer.

S Hollis



Students Visit Historic Greenwich

Damp weather did nothing to dampen spirits of a 40 strong contingent of Year 8, who on this Academy Day set forth to explore historic Greenwich.

Students had the opportunity to see a number of the significant sites in Greenwich as well as a little freedom to do some exploring of their own. From a quick look at the Cutty Sark (the famed Tea Clipper that was renowned for the speed with which it completed voyages to China), to explorations of Greenwich Market and the Royal Park, home of the meridian line of longitude.

Alongside all of this, students were able to explore the National Maritime Museum and the compelling content of several of the galleries within. Students saw exhibitions on the Atlantic slave

trade, which will put them in good stead for their forthcoming studies in History on the legacy of empire. They also had opportunities to discover the history of the Battle of Trafalgar and see the development of trade and exploration under Tudor and Stuart monarchs, equipping them well for GCSE History.

With the weather clearing by the time we settled for lunch and a local sweetshop having done some roaring trade, it was nice to have the opportunity for some friendly competition in the park. A couple of



fiercely competitive games of 'It' and 'Stuck in the Mud' and a rather exciting race adeptly won by Adi Milewicz (most of it with one shoe, no less!) saw us end our day before returning to school.

Overall, a really enjoyable day for both staff and students.

A Boundy

Day Trip to France



On Wednesday 16th October, 35 students and 4 members of staff arrived at school at 5:15am bleary-eyed but full of excitement as we were off to France for the day!

After a quick coach journey, a ride on the shuttle under the English Channel and another short coach journey, we arrived at our destination: Boulogne-Sur-Mer and more importantly, Nausicaá Aquarium, the biggest aquarium in Europe!

We spent the morning discovering the depths of the five oceans of the world, seeing the smallest anemones, watching the sea lions play and taking multiple selfies with the giant manta ray, the star of the aquarium's main tank!

When we resurfaced, we popped to chilly Antarctica to visit the penguins and then walked into the centre of Boulogne to find some lunch and have some free time.

Still feeling slightly peckish, we journeyed further South to the Chocolaterie Beussent where we learnt how chocolate makes its way from bean to bar and got to try lots of free samples along the way!

After stocking up with enough chocolate for the journey back home (and hopefully some as presents!), we climbed back on the coach and made our way back to England where we returned tired, but happy after having a fun day in France!

E Thomas

Visit to Madame Tussaud's



On a wet Wednesday morning, 30 students made their way across London to Madame Tussauds. Students experienced the A-list celebrity treatment; having paparazzi take their photo before having the opportunity to take their own photos with the celebrity waxworks.

Students started off in the Hollywood zone, before entering the magic of the film and party zone. Many questions were asked by teachers in the YouTube zone, but they redeemed themselves in the world leader and royal zones.

After a spirited debate in the music zone (Beyonce vs. Adele) students jumped into one of London's iconic black cabs on the 'Spirit of London' ride – an exciting journey through the capital's history. From the comfort of our taxis, students witnessed the historical and cultural events that have shaped London into one of the greatest cities in the world.

Students then moved on to the 4D cinema experience where every sense was engaged during Tussauds' very own Marvel picture.

Overall, a really enjoyable day for both staff and students.

B Minns

Herne Hill Velodrome



For Academy Day, 14 students travelled to the historic Herne Hill Velodrome. They enjoyed a two hour coached track session, cycling a total of 22km.

Their journeys to the Olympics as cyclists has begun!

S Trehearn

Trip to "Wicked"



The weather was on our side and a great day was had by all!

Began with a stop at Hamley's Toy Store and the students enjoyed all the 5 floors of this amazing toy

store buying gifts and sweets. We then travelled to Victoria Station and had lunch at the food court. Everyone was excited to attend the afternoon matinee which was enjoyed by all.

The students' behaviour and conduct were exemplary throughout the day, which was acknowledged by a couple of members of the public. What a "Wicked" time was had by all.

S Smith

Curling at Fentons Ice Rink

We left school around 8:30 and arrived at the Curling Ice Rink about 40 minutes later where we got introduced to our coach for the day. She showed us a video of the basics of Curling and the rules.

After the video we put on some special trainers so we didn't slip on the ice. As soon as we stepped onto the Curling rink, our coach showed us how to sweep. She said that when the Curling stone has slowed down, you then sweep so the stone can go further and reach the target. We also don't jump when we sweep!

When we understood the rules of sweeping, we then moved onto sliding

the stone across the rink. If you're right-footed, put your foot on the left back and the left is on the right. When you slide the stone, you want to move it back and forth and that's the same with your legs. You also turn the stone clockwise and anti-clockwise so the stone can curl. This is the reason why the sport is called Curling.

Then we moved onto matches. In the first round, it wasn't an exciting match but the second one was! Green got a 2-1 win while the Yellows won against the Blues. Final round was intense with Reds



winning the first round and Greens winning the second. Greens slid a nice stone at the Blues bit of the target. Then it was the Reds. They slid the stone and... it won the game! Yellows got a convincing victory against Blues. It was a fun day and we all wish to go Curling again.

Two Students from Year 8

Leeds Castle Visit

On a rather dismal and wet Wednesday morning, 16 intrepid students set off for Leeds Castle in Kent.

The weather did not bode well during our hour-long journey and the mood was declining rapidly.



When we arrived, guess what... NO RAIN!

With the mood growing with every footstep, we took a leisurely stroll through the wooded approach to the Castle.

We finally arrived at the Castle and with a sense of excitement we entered through the cellar, which happens to be the oldest part of the original Castle that was built in 1119.

We took the self-guided tour and made our way through the various rooms that had been restored to their original décor by the then owner Lady Bailie. She spent the equivalent of £20,000,000 in today's money getting the works done.

Once we had finished our tour it was off to the maze, where sadly, all the students managed to find their way out.

Once lunch was finished, we went into "The Knights' Stronghold"; a purpose built wooden fortress.

A quick visit to the shop, and it was off to McDonalds for a slap-up Big Mac and then home.

All 16 students had a great day... here's to the next one.

S Pearce

Students Watch Poison at The Old Vic



On Tuesday 1st October GCSE & A-Level Drama students were able to travel to the Old Vic to watch a new play, 'A Very Expensive Poison'.

It was an excellent evening with a play that dealt with the recent history in Russia and was told in an engaging style. The experience was further heightened as the day before they were able to have a 2-hour workshop focused on the content.

This is the first of four trips this academic year to the Old Vic.

G Kensit



Maggot Moon Theatre Trip



On Wednesday 9th October, students from the Year 9, 10 and 12 Drama cohorts travelled to Unicorn Theatre in London Bridge to watch Maggot Moon.

The play's protagonist Standish Treadwell suffers

from dyslexia and has a very low reading and writing age. It is also set in a 'What-if' history, in this case – 'What if Nazi Germany won the war'.

Although none of this was ever directly referenced in the performance, the students recognised this which sparked some fantastic conversations on the train back to school about storytelling, the importance of contextualising a play and various other performance elements.

J Russell

Visit to the Unicorn Theatre

On Tuesday 19th November a group of 60 Year 8 students visited the Unicorn Theatre to watch a production of The Canterville Ghost.

For many it was their first time attending a theatre and everyone enjoyed themselves immensely – fostering a further love and respect for performance.

J Russell

Year 11 and 12 Drama Workshop



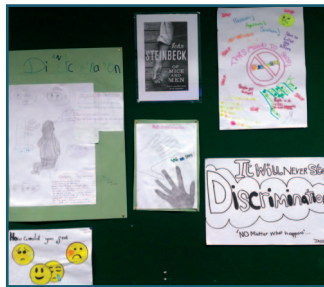
This workshop was led by Sabi Perez, a graduate from RADA, an actor, teacher and workshop leader. The workshop looked at fear and nerves when it comes to making spontaneous choices.

Students used a variety of games and exercises that slowly open up. They had to acknowledge and examine these moments eventually performing entirely improvised scenes whilst embracing and accepting their individual instincts to move on.

It was great to see year 11s and 12s performing together; fantastic acting. Watch out Leonardo DiCaprio!!

M D'Mello

"Of Mice and Men"



This term, Year 8 English have been studying Steinbeck's seminal novel 'Of Mice and Men' which examines life in 1930's America during the Great Depression.

One of the key themes of the novel is racial discrimination which Steinbeck portrays so vividly through the treatment of Crooks, the only black character in the novel. In conjunction

with this, we have examined and explored various types of discrimination as presented in newspaper articles and poetry.

One such poem we explored is 'Nothing's Changed' by Talamkhulu Afrika, which paints a harrowing picture of the impact of Apartheid in South Africa.

In Ms Condon's Year 8 (3) class, we invited Mr Moodley, who grew up in Apartheid South Africa, for an extremely powerful and insightful Q&A session.

The calibre of questions asked and the level of engagement of the class was exemplary, after which students designed and created their own anti-discrimination posters.

Overall, the students in Year 8 (3) have done an amazing job and have dealt with the topic of discrimination sensitively and maturely; well done!

M Condon



Boys' Football

The year 7A team started their campaign with a successful 5-0 win in the Croydon Cup 1st round /B League double header against Archbishop Tennison's. Sadly, they were knocked out of the National Cup in the 1st round after narrow 1-0 defeat to Greenshaw.

The year 7B team has played two league games but have lost both.

The year 8A team was successful in the 1st round of their Croydon Cup defence with a tight 4-3 win against Shirley High with the result also used for the corresponding A league fixture. They were also 4-2 winners against Riddlesdown in the A league, meaning the boys have 6 points from 6 in the league campaign and now also await their 2nd round opponents in the Croydon Cup.

After a successful season last year, the boys were also entered into the national cup, however a weakened Quest side were narrowly defeated 2-1 by the Central Foundation Boys School from Islington back in October. This was the boys' first ever defeat and still leaves them unbeaten in the League and Croydon Cup since they started secondary school!

The year 8 B team played their first game recently in what was an epic match resulting in an 8-4 defeat to Riddlesdown B. The boys have one more game before the Christmas break where they are due to play Harris Academy Crystal Palace at home which will be their 2nd league game of the season.

The year 9s have had a difficult start to the season. They were knocked out of the Croydon Cup in the first round for the second year running after a 4-1 defeat to Riddlesdown. This game was a double header so also counted as a 1st defeat of the season in the league as well! This was followed by another defeat last week to Orchard Park which means the Quest year 9 boys have a lot of work to do if they are to challenge for the 9A League this season.

The year 10s were entered into the National Cup this year after an impressive campaign last time out. Sadly, the boys



lost a monumental penalty shoot-out 14-13 to St John's in the 1st round after a 0-0 draw AET. However, the boys bounced back with a great mentality winning their next two games which were against Shirley High (B League game / Croydon cup double header 4-0 win) and St Joseph's B 2-1 (B league fixture). The boys now find themselves with 2 wins from 2 in the 10B league and into the 2nd round of the Croydon cup. The year 11s have played one game this season in the 1st round of the Croydon cup. The boys won this 4-2 after an impressive win over Archbishop Tenison's.

Girls' Football

The U15 girls team played their first league game of the season recently losing 5-1 to an experienced Riddlesdown team. Despite the result the girls still enjoyed the game hugely and showed some real class in defeat.

District Football

Congratulations to the following players from Quest who have all represented the exciting Year 8 U13 Croydon District team this season. The team remain in 3 Cup competitions including being in the 4th round of the ESFA National cup!

Ramses-Georges Sika Angoua, Oscar Moor, Phillip Hayford, Subby Noiki, Rizgar Bedir, Nathan Nutakor,

R Wilder

Rugby Round Up

Despite the awful weather conditions that seem to be never ending, the commitment and skills shown by the boys' rugby team has been enough to brighten even the darkest of days! They have started the academic year positively and put in place good foundations for what should be a successful year for Quest Rugby.

Year 7 Rugby

In addition to league fixtures (1 won; 1 lost), the year 7 boys represented the school at a Surrey Rugby tournament at Dorking RFC (2 won; 3 lost). This was a great opportunity for the boys to get some much-needed experience and time to gel as a team. Despite the losses there are many positives to take away from

the day with the boys' knowledge and understanding of the game vastly improving.

This term has been one full of learning and the boys have really started to understand what makes a rugby team successful. The squad has taken up extra training sessions, attending morning rugby sessions as well as after school. This level of commitment will only see them improve.

Player of the term: Tay Palmer
Coach: S Torrance

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Netball Round Up

Year 7 Netball

This term, the year 7 team has played one game, which was against Harris South Norwood. They won 2-1. Player of the Match awarded by Harris Academy South Norwood was Cayla-Rae Batchelor! The teachers' player was Monique Spencer, well done. Next fixtures are: Away to Tenison's 23rd January; Home to The Archbishop Lanfranc Academy 4th February; Away to Riddlesdown 26th February.

Year 8 Netball

This term the year 8 netball team has played two games, these were against Lanfranc and Harris Academy South Norwood. They played well and won both games; 9-5 and 4-1. Player of the Match awarded by Harris South Norwood was Layla Rossi! The teachers' player was Sarah Onyekan. For the The Archbishop Lanfranc Academy game, Player of the Match awarded by them was GD – Sarah Onyekan. Well done. Next fixtures are: Away to Archbishop Tenison's 23rd January; Away to Riddlesdown 27th February.

Year 9 Netball

This term the year 9 netball team has played 3 games, one friendly vs Thomas More Catholic School and two leagues games vs Meridian and Virgo Fidelis. They have won all three games:

Quest vs. Virgo Fidelis won 8-2

Quest vs. Meridian won 7-2

Quest vs. Thomas More Catholic School won 6-2

The girls have had a good start but have a lot to build on, with consistency at training and games the girls hope to continue their unbeaten record. Players

of the match have been; Shania Patrick-Layne and Jessica Denman. Next fixtures are: Away to Riddlesdown 27th February.

Year 10 Netball

This term the year 10 netball has had a busy schedule of matches, they have played three and won three. Despite missing players in some matches, other girls were called up and played fantastically. A strong versatile squad hoping to continue their unbeaten record.

Quest vs. Oasis Academy Shirley Park won 9-3

Quest vs. Archbishop Tenison's won 5-3

Quest vs. Thomas More Catholic School won 9-7

Next fixtures are: Home to Archbishop Tenison's 5th February; Home to Shirley High; Away to Riddlesdown 26th February.



Year 11 Netball

The year 11 netball team has played two matches, winning their first game 15-0 vs Meridian and losing the second 9-3 to Oasis Academy Shirley Park. The year 11 team is full of potential but yet to gel fully as a team fully. Watch this space, they are hoping to come back from the loss and pull together as a team. Players of the Match were awarded to Julicea Balfour and Danae Brown. Next fixtures are: Home to Thomas More Catholic School 22nd January; Home to Riddlesdown 29th January; Home to Norbury Manor 6th February.

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Year 8 Rugby

The first term has been busy for the Year 8 rugby boys, they have played one league fixture which was a defeat against a very good Rutlish school. Away from league fixtures the Year 8s have attended a Surrey Rugby tournament at Dorking RFC. The boys gave a good account of themselves in the tournament, winning one, drawing one, losing two. In patches the boys played some great rugby and showed that there is without doubt some talented players in the squad. Next term, there will be a big push to get players to training to help progress the team and continue the positive work this term.

Player of the term: Oscar Moor
Coach: T Bevan

Year 9 Rugby

The Year 9 squad have been busy with fixtures and a tournament in the first term. In the league the boys have played two, drawing one and losing the other. With the league start not being what we would hope for, the boys finally kick-started their season in the Surrey Rugby Tournament, winning 1, drawing 1 and losing 1. A very mixed bag of results on the day but lots of positives to take and the boys starting to play some great rugby in the final match.

The boys have shown great commitment in the first term and if this continues in the second term it should lead to a very successful year of rugby for the squad.

Player of the term: Temitayo Edun
Coach: S Torrance

Important dates for your diary

Start of Spring Term

Monday 6th January

Half Term Holiday

17th-21st February

Easter Holiday

Easter holiday 6th-17th April

Parents' Evenings

Year 7 Parents' Evening - Thursday 16th January

Year 10 Parents' Evening - Thursday 26th March

Year 11 Parents' Evening - 2nd April

Events

School Production - 11th, 12th, 13th February

School Ski Trip - 14th - 22nd February

Year 11 Mock Exams - 27th February - 13th March

Academy Day - 19th March

ACADEMY AT WORK TOURS

Monday 13th January, 11am-12noon

Monday 3rd February, 11am-12noon

Monday 16th March, 11am-12noon