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Principal's Message

As another term draws to a close, I'm pleased to say that we've largely operated as normal since September.

It's also been really pleasing to see all the extra-curricular activities and fixtures returning.

A good way to keep up with all the news is to follow our twitter feeds: [@TheQuestAcademy](#) and [@TQAPE](#) for all PE related updates and results.

Thank you for your support in reminding students to test twice weekly and to stay at home if they are unwell. This helps limit any community transmission and keeps us all as safe as possible.

I hope you are able to enjoy a relatively normal Christmas (you'll appreciate this is being written a couple of weeks before you see it!) and that you are able to see family and friends.

All being well we'll be back on Tuesday 4th January with a normal 08:20 start. We look forward to seeing your sons and daughters then refreshed and recharged and ready to learn again.

With festive best wishes,

Mr A. Crofts

Christmas Jumper Day



Save the Children

CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



On Friday 10th December, students and staff at Quest swapped their normal uniform and work clothes for something a little more festive!

By wearing their Christmas or festive-coloured jumpers, we worked together to raise money for Save the Children, a charity that works to provide children in Great Britain and abroad with the necessities they need but currently do not have.

Everybody paid £1 to participate and what was really lovely to see was the number of people who donated to this very worthy cause regardless of whether or not they were wearing a jumper.

A big shout-out needs to go to the following forms who were our top fundraisers:

1st Place = 9.5

2nd Place = 7.6

3rd Place = 7.5

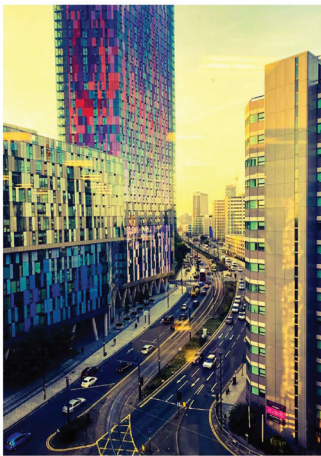
Quest has been supporting this charity by taking part in Christmas Jumper Day for a number of years now and this year we managed to raise over £125 for this incredible charity.

Thank you to all those staff and students who took part and to our parents for helping us to support this through donations and sourcing all those wonderful Christmas jumpers!

E Thomas



News from the Art Department



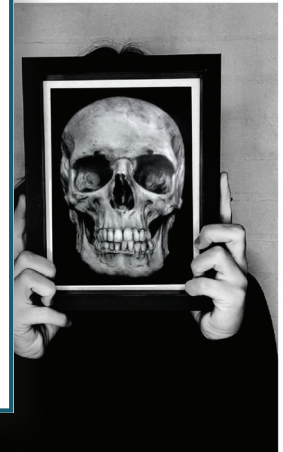
Archie Spackman



Emiliana Lawrence



Florence Lacovara



Layla Lewis

Photography has been the creative tool of choice as we snapped our way back into a new term. With over 300 entries to our photography competitions, we decided on 25 finalists who are now displayed along the Art corridor.

Well done to Emiliana Lawrence who won the portrait photography competition and Archie Spackman who won the Croydon photography competition.

In the classroom our Year 13s have been going big! Students have been experimenting with scale and have produced some of their largest works to date. Some mighty work has been made and they should be very proud of the work they have created.

Years 10, 12, and 13 went on a trip to the Tate Modern. It is great to have these trips back and the students were a credit to our school during the day out.

Students in Key Stage 3 have been learning how to use watercolour. Reptiles, robots, and hip-hop superstars have proved to be exciting subject matter and our students have done a wonderful job. A massive thank you to all of our Art students, every week you continue to produce some fantastic work and we couldn't be prouder of you.

E Barry

Product Design News

The Year 9 students were required to make a footstool based on the theme of nature. They cut the material needed, sanded until smooth and then assembled and finished with paint.

They will go on to make a soft cushion for their footstools when they complete textiles in the third term.

Congratulations to Ellie Lockhart and Kayla Merredew for completing their footstool ahead of time and to a very good quality.

P Downie



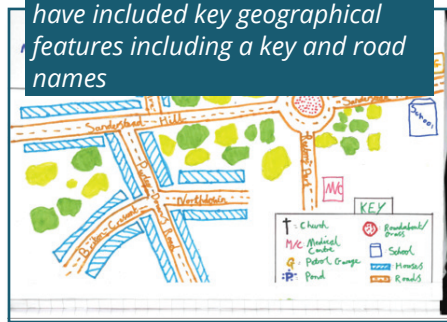


Geography News

Year 7 have been looking at map skills this half term, giving four and six-figure grid references and looking at Croydon on an OS map. They have worked on how to measure scale and distance on a map, give coordinates of longitude and latitude and measuring height on a map using contour lines.



Lily Corps and Ben Kentfield created some excellent maps of the area surrounding the school! They have included key geographical features including a key and road names



Year 8 have been focusing on global biomes and environmental concerns.

They have learnt about the climate characteristics of different biomes around the world including the Mediterranean, Tundra, Hot Desert and Tropical Rainforest. They have assessed how different plants and animals have adapted to these conditions.

They have also been looking at current environmental concerns such as climate change, deforestation, animal endangerment and extinction.

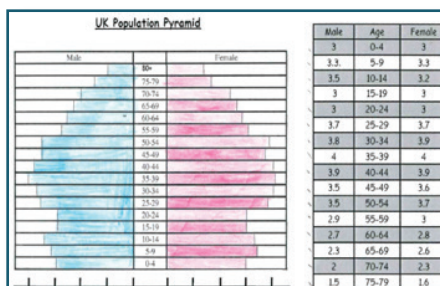
Year 9 have been investigating the overarching question of 'As the population continues to grow, should we be worried?' We have been learning about uneven population distribution around the world, types of migration, the reasons why people

move to different countries, how population changes as countries develop, overpopulation and the ways in which China and India introduced policies to reduce the birth rates in their countries.

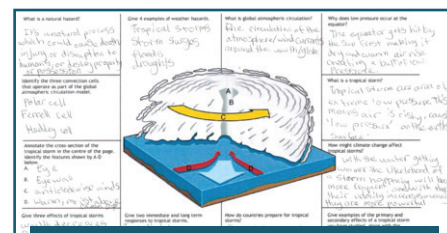
Year 10 have been looking at weather hazards this half term including the causes of tropical storms, where and how they form and a deeper look into the case study of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

They have also looked at examples of extreme weather in the UK including the 2009 Cumbria floods and most topical - Storm Arwen! Most recently, they have assessed the evidence for climate change and the natural and human causes of it.

S Hollis



Ellie Lockhart created a Population Pyramid of the UK



Sofwane Elhadri completed work on the formation of tropical storms and impacts associated with them

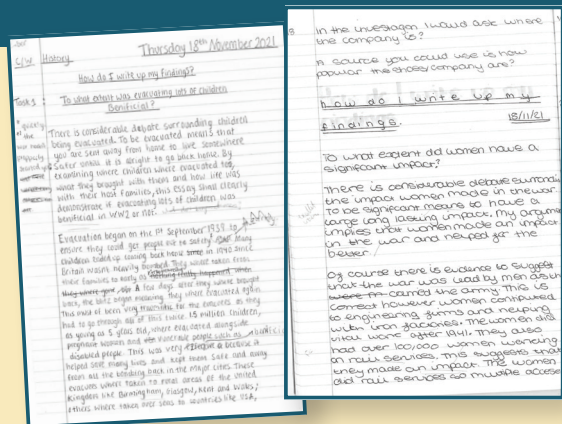
Year 9 History Projects

Year 9 students have spent their first term focussing on the key aspects of the Second World War, from the complex causes, key battles, the victories, the losses and the impact of the war itself. Despite this overview, there was still a plethora of aspects to be analysed which meant it was time for a research project!

Students were tasked to create their own independent enquiry on any topic within the Second World War that piqued their interest. These topics included, the role of women; evacuation of children; the changing treatment of ethnic minorities as a result of the war and the impact of technology.

With our guidance, students were able to formulate an enquiry using historical terminology - asking themselves 'to what extent' or 'how significant' their topic was in order to establish criteria of evaluation and respond to their question in the form of an essay. After several lessons of research in class and discussions on essay structure, they produced some magnificent work.

We are extremely proud of the outcome of these projects. Students put a significant amount of time



and effort into developing their own interpretations and should be commended for their effort.

H Pierson





News From the French Department

Year 8 have been creating some amazing paragraphs on the topic of their town. We have been using a new method of teaching through Sentence Builders and Year 8 have really improved their listening and speaking skills.

Year 10 have been producing some fantastic 90-word answers. We have put a big focus on exam technique and ensuring their work includes the star structures needed to reach the higher grades. Many pupils have been grasping this idea and have really improved!

E Marler

sh B 8/4

Task 3: Find and correct the errors in the following brackets:

1. J'habite dans une maison qui est vieux et joli (2)
vieux = vieille et joli = jolie
2. Dans ma maison il y a cuisine et salon (2)
une cuisine, un salon
3. Mais il n'y a pas de un jardin (1)
un jardin
4. Je n'aimes pas ma maison parce que amusant (1)
elle n'est pas amusante
5. Nous habite dans une appartement qui est confortable et jolie (3)
habitons, un appartement, jolie

Task 4: Translate the following sentences into French

1. In my house there is my room
Dans ma maison il y a ma chambre
2. I live in a house which is clean.
J'habite dans une maison qui est propre
3. In my house there is a kitchen but there is not an entrance
Dans ma maison il y a une cuisine mais pas d'entrée
4. I hate my house because it is boring
Je déteste ma maison parce que c'est ennuyeux

Task 5: In your own words, describe your house.

J'habite dans une petite maison qui a ma maison à deux étages, une cuisine, une chambre et une salle de bain. Elle est moderne et jolie.

Task 3: Find and correct the errors in the following phrases. The number of brackets:

1. J'habite dans une maison qui est vieux et joli (2)
vieux = vieille et joli = jolie
2. Dans ma maison il y a cuisine et salon (2)
une cuisine, un salon
3. Mais il n'y a pas de un jardin (1)
un jardin
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Task 5: In your own words, describe your house.

Dans mon appartement, il y a un salon, une cuisine, une chambre et mes parents la chambre dépendant il n'y a pas de jardin. J'aime ma maison parce que c'est amusant et je peux aller à l'école et au jardin. C'est bien.

3. My dad has blue eyes and blond hair.
Mon père a les yeux bleus et cheveux blonds
4. My brother is more annoying than my sister.
mon frère est plus ennuyeux que ma sœur
5. Yesterday I watched a film in the cinema with my friends.
Hier j'ai regardé un film dans un cinéma avec mes amis

Partie C: Répondez à la question

Vous décrivez vos rapports avec les autres pour un magazine français.

Décrivez:

- votre famille (descriptions) *family desc*
- les relations *relationships*
- les qualités d'un bon / mauvais ami / qualités of friend *good/bad friend*
- des activités récentes avec vos copains / copines *recent activities with friends*

Ecrivez environ 90 mots en français. Répondez à chaque aspect de la question. (10 marks)

Ma famille est très grande. C'est plus grande que mes amis. J'ai une tante et une sœur, elle est vraiment petite mais mon frère est assez grande. Mon père est un bon ami. Mes amis, le meilleur mes amis est anglais! Elle est vraiment fidèle et elle aime avoir un BD. Mes amis, la ton amie est avec mes amis, elle aime le shopping et c'est très amusant. Plus amusant.

Cooking and Nutrition News



Students across the year groups have been cooking up sweet feasts with dessert dishes such as puff pastry with sweet mascarpone filling, chocolate cake, chocolate log, fruit tarts, cupcakes and lemon meringue.

GCSE students excelled making their "main" dish of stuffed chicken breast and duchess potatoes and honey glazed vegetables.

Year 12 students and Mrs Watson also made Caribbean style Christmas cakes, and distributed them as a "thank you" to staff for all they've done this term.

A Watson



English Department News

This term we have been exploring Language Paper 1 with the Year 10 cohort. Within my English class, we experimented with group work descriptive writing, where each group was provided a small part of the photograph to describe. We then collated all of their descriptions into one response, which is pictured here.

I am very proud of all their hard work on this description.

C Valbuena

Why is the sky so dim today?

The sky was as colourless as the dark abyss. Even the sky had lost all emotions dealing with the harsh realities of this earth. As the sky was everywhere, it viewed everything, such as murders, robberies and kidnappings, it has ruined its entire perspective on earth, or in fact humans. It has seen good things – such as people helping out the homeless, but the horrible things would outweigh the good deeds and the damage had been done. It could only sit there and rain.

The lamps complement the deep blue sky, almost signalling a beacon of hope.

As if signalling to the blue heavens above, they crave the starlight, turning on in an almost identical sequence to create a runway of the black top road.

From how the man is behaving we can infer the man feels saddened from how the blue lights creates sadness.

The glowing lamp towered over the man, looking down at him.

Can you feel that melancholic aura?

Feeling the atmosphere leaves you in a state of depression. Going near the atmosphere can make even the most cheerful man turn into a melancholic mess. The deep, blue, desolate clouded sky swallows the dark.

As slow as a feather the frosty snow falling down, destined to reunite once again.

The material of the bench is very long-lasting, the wood is very smooth as it was hand-made and because of the size of the bench it turned out to be very heavy. Because of the weather, the bench is now frozen and very cold to touch. The bench as hard as stone is very long-lasting because of its quality.

Its colour as dark as the deep ocean because of its frozen state, the dimly lit lamppost reflects on the bench to make it glow. When the man sat on the bench a creaky sound could be heard.

Like an iceberg, the man sits still waiting. Soft snow covering his beard. Frozen still. Why is he waiting? Melancholic behaviour of his past reflecting on him. Caught up in his past the hold man's thoughts overwhelm him. A tear running down his chin as the presence of his wise sadness.

Fluffy clothing warming his heart of ice. A comforting blanket covering his entire body leaving no exposure to the freezing depth of the night.

A nameless man strolled aimlessly through a park flooded by streetlights and hidden by snow. In his wrinkled hand, he held the most beautiful, crimson flower. Even among the streetlights, the flower shines so brightly, not allowing itself to be hindered by the nameless man. Its light was all-consuming, nothing left untouched by it. Eventually, the man found an old broken-down bench, the word down bench was covered by snow, small holes scattered through it allowed the snow to reach the ground. Disregarding the snow, the man rested on the bench, he wasn't sure why the flower had captivated him. Was it its beauty? Its radiance? Its ability to brighten up everything around it no matter how dull?



Greenwich Maritime Museum

For the Autumn Term Academy Day, 32 students from years 8-10 made their way to the Greenwich Maritime Museum, to explore both the museum and the theme of 'Migration'.



Staff and students were incredibly lucky to be able to attend two workshops which gave them the opportunity to think about which historical sources would be most useful in telling us how migration has impacted the world as we know it, even getting the chance to read a 200-year-old diary!



We also looked at how the representation of the world has changed according to maps as we have discovered more and more about where we live.

After an information treasure hunt in the galleries, we looked at how different migrant communities had settled in London over the years by investigating real artefacts, which told us more about their lives. We looked at sewing machines used by the Jewish community and navigation tools used by the Huguenots.

An excellent and thoroughly interesting day was had by all!

E Thomas

Leeds Castle Visit

The day started off rather rainy but it didn't dampen the spirits of our 10 students, who arrived at Leeds Castle excited to explore.



Students began the day exploring the grounds of the Castle, navigating their way through the maze, competing against each other in mini golf, before admiring the birds of prey in the falconry area. The afternoon was spent inside the castle itself, exploring the various rooms such as Catherine of Aragon's bedroom, the galleries and the chapel – the stained glass in the chapel was three times older than the United States itself!

The students were extremely engaged, asking questions about the contents of the rooms, and testing each other on their knowledge of the Tudors and Stuarts. We ended the afternoon with a run around in the giant castle themed playground and made sure that the ducks were well fed.

We were extremely impressed with the students throughout the trip and commend them for their excellent behaviour, engagement, maturity and kindness to each other and the public. It was a joy to take them on the trip, building their confidence and giving them a chance to develop a greater understanding of history.

Everyone had a great day!

H Pierson

A Level Geography Field Trip to London

On Monday 6th December, the A level Geography students conducted their fieldwork in London to collect data for their NEA.

The students assessed the impact and success of gentrification at Kings Cross and the varying quality of life between two areas in Stratford, with specific focus on the Olympic Village.

This data will now be analysed, and statistical tests completed as part of their data presentation in their assignments. It was a lovely day out, albeit a very wet one!

S Hollis





A Christmas Carol Visit – The Old Vic

On Monday 6th December, a group of 30 Year 9 students visited The Old Vic to watch a retelling of A Christmas Carol. It was a truly magical retelling of the Dickens classic which all students thoroughly enjoyed.



This was then complemented on Friday 10th December with a workshop on lighting design led by theatre industry professionals who worked closely with our students to develop their understanding of being a designer.

J Russell



Academy Day Trip to Legoland

The students enjoyed a fun-filled day to Legoland! They sieved for gold, went on the Viking River Splash, shot characters on the Laser Raiders and went on the biggest ride – The Dragon!



S Hollis

Beauty & The Beast Pantomime

On Thursday 16th December, 100 Year 7 students ascended Fairfield Halls with electric excitement.

This is the first time since theatres reopened that many of our students experienced the wonderment of live theatre.



As expected, it was a superb performance and all of our students were a credit to the Academy.

J Russell

Netball News

During the Autumn term our Years 9, 10 and 11 students have participated in a wide range of netball fixtures.

The season started off with our Year 9 students unfortunately being defeated by both Shirley High and Archbishop Tenison. Despite not securing any wins, the girls have been training hard and are preparing themselves for their scheduled matches after Christmas.

On the other hand, the Year 10s have had a thrilling start to the season. On Thursday 11th November, the girls had their first match against Oasis Coulsdon and won 9-3. The girls performed extremely well and the win was well deserved.

On Thursday 18th November the girls participated in their second match against Thomas More and won 14-2 – a strong and convincing team performance throughout all four quarters.

On Wednesday 1st December the girls played their final match against Archbishop Tenison and again won with a score of 10-8. The match was tough, but the girls showcased great sportsmanship and determination throughout - well done Year 10!

Finally, the Year 11s showcased an excellent performance this term. Despite losing to Riddlesdown on their first match on Wednesday 6th



October, the girls came back stronger than ever and were triumphant in their match against Thomas More on Friday 15th October with a winning score of 15-1.

For their final match against Archbishop Lanfranc on Friday 19th November the girls again achieved a winning score of 24-4. There is no doubt that the Year 11s will continue their success next term – well done!

T Millar



Quest Football: the season so far...



Year 9

Year 9 boys have not had much football so far this season after having three games cancelled by opposition schools. In the one game they have played the team lost a close encounter to London Nautical 2-1 in the National Cup 1st round. Hopefully there will be more football for the Year 9s to focus on in the new year.

Year 7:

The Year 7 boys are showing potential, with a number of players starting to show their promise. The team have played three games in the Croydon Schools 7A Premier division, winning one against Harris South Norwood CT and losing two against Riddlesdown and Harris Purley. The team also lost in the 3rd round of the PlayStation National cup, getting knocked out to Simon Balle from Hertfordshire. The team play their first ever 1st round Croydon Cup match at home to Harris South Norwood BH in the last week before the Christmas holidays.

Team manager Mr Wilder gives a shout out to midfield captain Bailey Powell who is the team's top scorer with four goals from four games.

Year 8:

The Year 8 boys football team have had a tough start to the season losing all three games played. One of these was in the National Cup 1st round where they lost to Oaks Park High school from Sutton. They also lost in the 1st round of the Croydon Cup against Ark Academy. This was followed by a difficult defeat in the Croydon Schools 8A Premier Division.

Team manager Mr Torrance would like to give a shout out to the whole team for showing great commitment by attending training before and after school in order to try and improve their fortune.



Team manager Mr Bevan would like to give a shout out to the talented and versatile Oscar Pegler who played brilliantly in numerous positions during the tight defeat against London Nautical.

Year 10

The Year 10 boys have had a brilliant start to the 2021/22 season. The team remain unbeaten in six games this season across three different competitions. They have qualified for the 6th round of the PlayStation National Cup, beating Trinity, St Pauls of Greenwich and Carshalton Boys in the process. The team are now one of 32 teams left in the competition from 622 who entered originally. We play The Forest school from Berkshire in the next round at the start of next term.

The boys have also started the defence of their Croydon Cup which they won in Year 7, with a comfortable 7-1 victory over Shirley High. Quest will meet Trinity once again in the quarter- final.

In the Croydon Schools 10A Premier Division the team have played two league games, resulting in a 3-3 draw in the first game of the season against fellow Collegiate Trust school Riddlesdown, followed by a resounding 6-1 victory away to Harris Purley. Winning an historic treble is the aim for the season and the boys are in good shape to do this as it stands.

Team manager Mr Wilder gives a shout to Rizgar Bedir who leads to goalscoring with seven goals from the five games he has played.

Year 11

The Year 11 boys have only played one game this season which resulted in a 4-2 defeat to Riddlesdown B in the Croydon Schools 11B division. The team play their Croydon Cup 1st round tie against Harris Purley in the last week before we break up for Christmas. The team are looking to end their time in secondary school with some silverware in either the Croydon Cup or Croydon Schools B league. Fingers crossed they can do so!

KS3 Girls Football

This year there have been some great opportunities for the KS3 girls to get involved in playing football. There has been training to attend after school on Tuesdays when a fixture is not being taken by coach Mr Wilder.

There have also been two friendly fixtures held for the girls this season. These both resulted in defeats for Quest, however there were some big positives to take from the games, with the team starting to show signs of some real talent and teamwork. There is big hope that the girls can have some positive results in the new year.

Shout out to Chloe Bradley in Year 7 and Sy'ria Thompson-Campbell in Year 9 who are the top goal scorers for the girls' teams this year.

R Wilder



Rugby Round Up

This term has been exceptionally busy for the PE department, with at least one fixture every day. This has been no truer than with Quest rugby teams. Although some year groups have been far busier than others due to fixture cancellation, rugby has been an emphatic part of the Autumn term, whether this be through core PE delivery or extracurricular clubs and fixtures.

The busiest of our teams was the Year 8s who have had two festivals and two matches this half term, closely followed by Year 7s who have also had a mixture of festivals and matches during this half term. Sadly, due to cancellations and mock exams, the

Year 9 and Year 10/11 team have not had the same number of fixtures; this will be remedied next term.

It is fair to say that rugby was an alien sport to most of our Year 7 and 8 students! We started the term with most lacking the knowledge of how to score a try, but we end it with the fundamentals of two excellent rugby year groups. Both have achieved a mixed bag of results while developing their skills in a "Pitch Up 'n Play" format at St John's School. The same can be said of the Year 8s in their more local, Surrey schools festival at Trinity School.

I would like to give a massive hand to



every student that has represented The Quest Academy in rugby and look forward to spending many more hours listening to their singing in the minibus on away days and developing their skills and love for the game on the training pitch.

The mission of turning our football enthusiasts into egg chasers continues next term...

S Torrance



The Year 10 boys football team start their defence of the Croydon Cup this week when they take on Shirley

Croydon Cup Defenders

High in the Croydon Cup 1st round at Quest. The boys are still the holders of the trophy from their historic victory in Year 7, as the Croydon Cup has not been played since due to the pandemic.

The boys have also done amazingly well to reach the 5th round of the ESFA PlayStation

schools cup which is a prestigious nationwide competition. They play away to Carshalton Boys on Friday 10th December in what will be a tense and exciting encounter for all involved (see the website for a post-match update). The team remain unbeaten in the League and the Croydon Cup since they started Quest in Year 7! Long may this continue!

R Wilder

Important dates for your diary

SPRING TERM 2021

Tuesday 4th January 2022 – Friday 8th April

Half-Term

Monday 14th February – Friday 18th February

Easter Holiday

Monday 11th April – Friday 22nd April

SUMMER TERM 2022

Monday 25th April 2022 – Friday 22nd July
(Monday 2nd May – Bank Holiday – Academy closed to students)

Half-Term

Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

Summer Holiday

Monday 25th July – Monday 5th September (INSET Day – Academy closed to students)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 7 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 12th January, 4pm

Year 9 Careers Interviews

17th January to 28th January

Year 9 Reports sent home

Friday 21st January

Year 11 Reports Sent Home

Friday 11th February

Year 13 Spring Mocks

21st February to 4th March

Year 10 Parents' Evening

Wednesday 23rd February, 4pm

Year 9 Parents' Evening & Options Fair

Wednesday 16th March, 2:30-7pm