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the mossbournian

The Newsletter of Mossbourne Community Academy

Winter 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,



A warm welcome, to the winter edition of 'The Mossbournian'. I would like to extend a particularly special welcome to the parents and carers of our Year 7 cohort and parents and carers of Year 12 students who are new to Mossbourne Community Academy having joined the Mossbourne Sixth Form this year.

would welcome all help, no matter how big or small. FoMCA can be contacted, directly, via email: friendsgroup@mca.mossbourne.org

I am delighted to share the exceptional achievements of last year's Year 11 and 13 pupils in their GCSE and A Level examinations. Although the summer results days feel an age away, now, it will be hard to forget the screams of delight emanating from pupils and staff alike when the results were published. The day of reckoning really was testimony to the hard work and dedication of the pupils on their secondary school journey. The joy was even sweeter because, as you will be aware, 2022 saw the first year of public examinations since pre-COVID.

Year 11 pupils attained outstanding GCSE results and even surpassed last year's results in terms of raw attainment. An impressive 89% of pupils achieved grades of 4+ in both English and maths, against a national average of 64% and 75% of pupils achieved grades of 5+ in both English and maths, against a national average of 46%. An astounding 66% of the cohort achieved the English Baccalaureate which means they achieved at least a grade 5 in English, maths, the sciences, a language and either history or geography. This figure is even more incredible when you consider that the national average for this standard, this year, was 19%.

Our Year 13 students achieved the best A Level results the Mossbourne Sixth

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Proud GCSE students Lena Kesraoui and Mayar Sabah on results day, August 2022

Both Year 7 and Year 12 have got off to an impressive start. Just this morning I congratulated Year 12 in assembly on how mature and impressive a year group they are and last week teaching staff applauded Year 7 in their assembly for having achieved 100% attendance as a year group for two days.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a very special thank you to the Friends of Mossbourne Community Academy (FoMCA). Without the unstinting support of FoMCA it would not be possible to host the pre-loved uniform sales. FoMCA sort, tidy and sell the second-hand uniform at parents' evenings. Never has their support been more needed considering the current cost of living crisis and, of course, in terms of the importance of avoiding unnecessary waste. If I may make a direct plea to parents: if you have ever purchased an item from the second-hand uniform stall or have some time to spare, please do consider supporting FoMCA. They

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Form has ever seen. An impressive 84% of all grades achieved were a grade B, or above, and an unprecedented 57% of all grades were A*- A: nearly double what was achieved in the last set of public exams in 2019. A total of 39 students achieved only A*-A grades. Following our Year 13 results I am extremely proud to say that there are now 84 alumni who are medics, or future medics, and 8 alumni who are architects, or future architects. An astounding 65% of students from last year's Year 13 are now studying at a Russell Group University; they will have completed their first term and I have no doubt they will have excelled and enjoyed student life.

There have been significant highlights this term, about which you can read in this edition. However, a special mention must go to Iris Creighton in Year 13 who both wrote the script and composed the music for the Academy Production on 24th November 2022. Iris' play 'Club Lunaire' was a phenomenal achievement

especially considering the backdrop of also undertaking four A Levels! The play was incredible; the cast, crew and audience enjoyed every minute! A further special mention must go to the team representing the Mossbourne Sixth Form who were the jubilant winners of the Grocers' Hall Academy Awards on 21st November. The Year 12 team beat a number of other state schools to secure the first prize of £5000 for the academy. Mia Arthur, Angel Constantinou, Casper Daghish, Joshua Inegbenose, William Ntaka and Farrel Ajayi pitched a business plan to an audience of 80 Grocers from all industries and stole the floor – they were articulate, convincing and confident. Their win was voted for unanimously and audience members offered their time to mentor the group in preparation for the Grand Final in Mansion House on the 31st January, so convinced were they by their oracy, teamwork and their presentational skills and ideas.

I do hope you enjoy this edition of 'The Mossbournian' and I will take this opportunity to wish all pupils and families a most peaceful Christmas and an enjoyable holiday. Thank you for your on-going support, hard work and collaboration with staff so Mossbourne Community Academy pupils both fulfil their true potential and continue to make us proud every day.

Rebecca Warren
Principal

Key Events & Academic Calendar

Spring Term 2023

Spring term starts	Tuesday 3 rd January
Year 11 Parents' Evening	Thursday 19 th January 2023
Year 8 Parents' Evening	Thursday 26 th January 2023
Year 8 and Year 11 Consultation Day	Friday 10 th February 2023
HALF TERM	Monday 13th – Friday 17th February 2023
PSHCE Day	Thursday 16 th March 2023
Year 13 Parents' Evening	Thursday 23 rd March 2023
Last day of term	Friday 31 st March 2023
Easter Holidays	Monday 3rd – Friday 14th April 2023
Summer term starts	Monday 17 th April 2023
Year 9 Parents' Evening	Thursday 20 th April 2023
Bank Holiday	Monday 1st May 2023
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Thursday 4 th May 2023
Bank Holiday	Monday 8th May 2023
HALF TERM	Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023
PSHCE Day	Friday 30 th June 2023
Sports Day	Wednesday 5 th July 2023
Last day of term	Friday 7 th July 2023



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Music Assemblies

The Music Department celebrated Black History Month with a special assembly for all year groups. The assembly reflected on the contributions of Black musicians throughout the ages and was a much-appreciated positive start to the day for both students and staff.

Here Liezelle Enos (9 Brontë) recounts her experience of performing during the assemblies:

To perform in an assembly is great fun and a great experience. Before we performed, we practised African drumming every Tuesday during lunch for four weeks and we created two different beats to play. In my opinion, to perform you must be ready for whatever comes because you do not know what could be thrown at you. For example, when Mr Watson made me do a solo, I was a little frightened as I did not know what to do at first but then I just laughed it off!

I think all the assemblies went well. I really enjoyed being part of them and playing with my close friends made the experience even better. ■

Students playing African drums during assembly



FRIENDS OF MCA

Message from FoMCA

The Friends of MCA are pleased to announce that we have a new, permanent storage space for all our second-hand uniform! The store is located within the Textiles room, which is where all future sales will be held. We're looking at new ways to make the uniform accessible to parents, carers and students throughout the term so please look out for messages via the school, our Instagram or feel free to email us any queries you may have.

You can support the FoMCA by volunteering (just an hour or two a term is really helpful) or by joining Easyfundraising.org.uk where a donation goes to the school every time you shop, without it costing you a penny:

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/mossbourneaca/

Ways to get in touch:

Email:
friendsgroup@mca.mossbourne.org

Instagram:
[@friendsofmca](https://www.instagram.com/friendsofmca)

Many thanks for all your support and donations in 2022!

Mai-Ling, Miranda & the Friends of MCA ■



New storage for second-hand uniforms



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Visit to the Go Africa Festival

In celebration of Black History Month, 20 lucky students in Year 9 and 10 were chosen to visit the Go Africa Festival at Islington Town Hall. The exhibition showcased artworks by the community on the theme of cultural identity. Here, Kaydon Addai (10 Mandela) tells us about his experience:

I went on the Black History Month trip, to the 'Go Africa Festival of Art', and it was honestly an amazing experience. It was so great to see so many cultures working together to educate the youth. The trip allowed me to speak to and relate to people of similar cultures and norms, these conversations heavily differed from the conversations I have in my everyday life. And being able to have a conversation with Dawn Butler (Member of Parliament) was a monumental experience in my life that I will never forget. Thank you to Miss Vock-Betton and Miss Edgar for taking us on such a fun and educational trip! ■



A hands-on experience of the art works on display

MCA students exploring the exhibition



Year 11 Weaving Workshop

As part of the Black History Month celebrations, the Year 11 Art students were treated to an art & weaving workshop delivered by The Blühen Studio. This is what Manish Bains Singh (11 Brontë) had to say about the event:

The weaving workshop was a day to remember. Our instructor, artist Amber Roper, came with a wealth of knowledge and experience. After being taught a few basic weaving stitches, we were given fabrics, yarn and paper to weave our own art pieces. It was great to be taught the rich history of weaving in Africa and how our instructor bases her artistic practice on this tradition. Many of us at the workshop also had the opportunity to incorporate the skills and pieces within our GCSE Art portfolios. The workshop was exciting, knowledgeable and fun. A spectacular experience! ■



Year 11 students perfecting their weaving skills



The artist's work inspired the students

Workshop students with artist Amber Roper



Screening of Barber Shop Chronicles

As part of our celebrations for Black History Month, the Sixth Form screened the sell-out National Theatre production of Inua Ellams' fantastic play 'Barber Shop Chronicles'. Inua Ellams is a UK-based internationally renowned poet, playwright and performer from Nigeria. This heart-warming and funny play celebrates the social spaces which are often frequented by African men and sheds a light on the strength of relationships within these communities. The sixth formers who watched the play are now keen to read more of Inua Ellams' works! ■



Sixth formers enjoying theatre on the telly



Beautiful painting by Juisy Owusu (9 Milton), made in honour of Black History Month



News from the Drama Department

This term has seen a huge change for the Drama Department at MCA, with two new members of staff joining the team: Mr. Swales and Miss O'Flaherty. Here is just a taster of the collaborative and creative delights which happened in Drama this term:

Year 7 exploring The Epic of Gilgamesh

During their first half term at MCA Year 7 students worked on The Epic of Gilgamesh (the oldest written story known to exist). They were introduced to and assessed on several performance skills including storytelling, characterisation and stage craft skills. Throughout every lesson students also focus on and develop the eight C's: Collaboration, creativity, confidence, curiosity, cooperation, commitment, communication and coordination. These are not just skills for Drama, they are for life!

Year 7 have now started their next unit of Greek Theatre and will continue learning and developing skills using the scripted story When Prometheus Gave Fire to Man. Once completed, the Greek Theatre performances will be available to watch, like and comment upon via the Stream App (to access the Stream App you need your children's Microsoft 360 login details & password). ■

Year 7 students working on one (or possibly several) of the eight C's.



Year 12 drama student is RADA's latest recruit

Congratulations to **Laila Yakubu** (12 Wollstonecraft) who was successful in auditioning for the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art's Youth Company. Laila previously participated in the National Youth Theatre and will now learn from some of the best at RADA. She will hone her acting skills during the ten-month training programme and will have the opportunity to perform in RADA's Jerwood Vanbrugh theatre. Well done, Laila!

Turn to page 8 to read Laila's article about attending a private screening of Black Panther Wakanda Forever. ■



On route to RADA

Year 13 watching Antigone

By *Elifsu Sakiroglu (13 Hazlitt)*

It was a real treat for the Year 13 drama students to watch Antigone in Regent's Park. Modernized by playwright Inua Ellams (Barber Shop Chronicles), this contemporary, urbanized adaptation casts Sophocles' Antigone as a Muslim youth worker spreading messages of compassion for people and protesting the mass closure of youth centres. The play portrays so many of the divisive issues hitting the headlines today including immigration, discrimination, police corruption and politicians chasing power over principles. The ensemble's choral work and minimal staging were excellent. After the matinee performance we were lucky enough to meet Tony Jayawardena who played the conflicted Creon, that was a fantastic end to an extraordinary experience! ■



The Year 13 drama class with actor Tony Jayawardena



A beautiful afternoon at Regent's Park Open Air Theatre



 DRAMA

Year 12 devising original drama

The Year 12 drama students have started their devising component (worth 40% of the course). They are using an extract from the play *I Cinna* by Tim Crouch. This interactive and immersive play was inspired by the street poet Cinna who briefly appears in William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* before

being murdered by the civil rebellion. Using themes and quotes from the extract and exploring the work of theatre companies *Complicité* and *Kneehigh*, Year 12 will perform their original pieces of theatre to an invited audience in February. ■



Year 12 students in rehearsal

Stars of the Term

The Drama Department has introduced Stars of the Term for all students in Year 7-11. The winners will be chosen from those who have really challenged themselves in lessons or our enrichment clubs and who continuously strive for excellence, either individually or through their creative collaborations. Winning students will be celebrated in the next newsletter and displayed for the year on our Hall of Fame wall outside the auditorium. The star award is proudly modelled below by Mr. Swales. ■

And the Oscar goes to...



 MUSIC

Music Clubs

Don't forget to head over to the Music department during lunch time if you are interested in taking part in all the fantastic Music Enrichment activities: ■

Music Enrichment Timetable:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7 – 8 am		Junior Band			
12.55 – 1.35 pm		Junior Choir	Steel Pan	Senior Choir	Percussion Band
		Samba	Brass Band	Senior Strings	Junior Strings
4.20 – 5.20 pm					Senior Band





DRAMA PRODUCTION

School production 2022: Club Lunaire

On November 24th MCA saw an evening of original theatre and music, written and composed by our very own talented Year 13 creative mastermind, Iris Creighton (13 Berkoff). The show was made up of performers from Year 8-10, led by Iris and her band.

The evening was 90 minutes of crazy fun, set in space. Club Lunaire is a bar on the moon where survivors have been taking refuge after the earth was destroyed by an ice cap explosion. Unfortunately, the last ship to leave earth, carrying the entire musical collection of the human race, was intercepted and destroyed by Neptunians... Here is where the musical and the lunar delights commence! A huge WELL DONE to the cast and crew, and especially to Iris, on an amazing achievement!

During Performing Arts week 6-10th March 2023, there will be a whole school vote to decide the next production. Watch this space! ■



Iris Creighton (in a pink wig) with the rest of the band.

The Club Lunaire ensemble



ARCHITECTURE PROGRAMME

People's Pavilion Competition, Olympic Park

During the first weekend of the half term students from the Mossbourne Architecture Programme participated in the People's Pavilion Competition, which took place at Here East in the Olympic Park. The competition ties in with this year's MAP project to design a pavilion for the Mossbourne Sixth Form Garden. Below is an account by Isabella Yesufu (12 Kingsley) and Violet Humphreys (12 Berkoff) of how they found the experience:

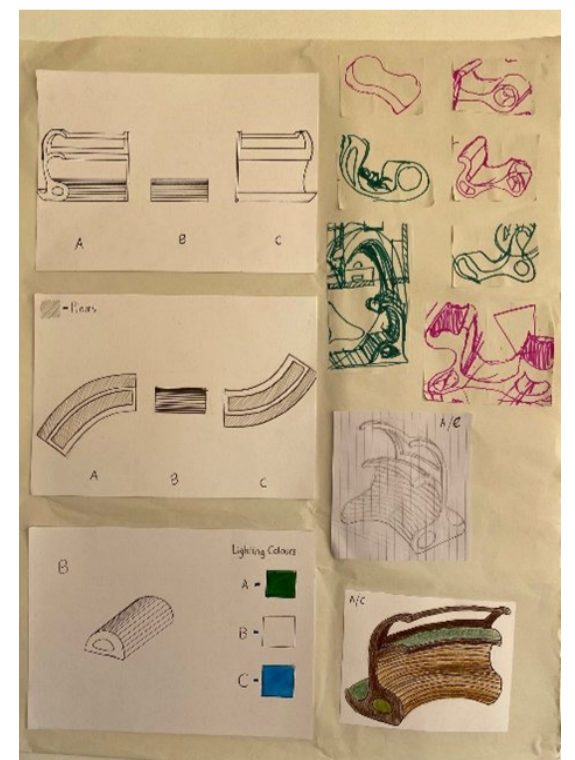
The first day consisted of a workshop where we met architects and engineers who aided us in the design process of outdoor spaces. We walked around Hackney Wick with mentors who pointed out specific architecture that would provide inspiration for our pavilion. We spent the rest of the day designing and modelling three concepts whilst taking breaks to remodel our designs in limited time to help us think outside the box.

On the second day we finalised one design, created an updated model and produced an isometric and orthographic drawing to present alongside all the other competitors. Our presentation covered sustainability, accessibility, and aesthetics. We gained a lot of presenting and designing skills as well as new contacts, who have since offered work experience over the next year. We greatly enjoyed the experience of model making and seeing our ideas merge together as a team. ■

Model making for the competition



Drawing ideas for the pavilion





ART & DESIGN TECHNOLOGY

Year 9 students' artwork exhibited at Westfield

In October, the Year 9 GCSE Art class was selected to participate in an exciting photography project called 'Visible/ Invisible'. Delivered by 'The Line' in partnership with the National Portrait Gallery and London College of Fashion, the project involved being guided along a section of The Line Sculpture Trail and a full day of creative photography workshops delivered by practising artist Gisela Torres at the historic House Mill in Bromley-by-Bow.

Some of the students' artwork was selected for a public exhibition in November, as part of Westfield Shopping Centre's "Future You" initiative. This project brings together local organisations and charities to celebrate skills, culture, creativity, and wellbeing for young people locally. The students' artwork has also been displayed on the Olympic Stadium screens.

The art trip was great! We had a day dedicated to creativity, fun and education. We developed our knowledge of photography and cameras...I can't wait for another art trip!

Shifa Mapara (9 Bevan)

This trip really helped me to gain an understanding of photography and how to make a piece of art out of it!

Rufus Bornat (9 Milton)

I found the workshop very engaging as the artists gave us lots of personal guidance and at the end of the workshop, I had created a complex photograph.

Charlie Greensides (9 Malala) ■

Year 9 Creative Photography

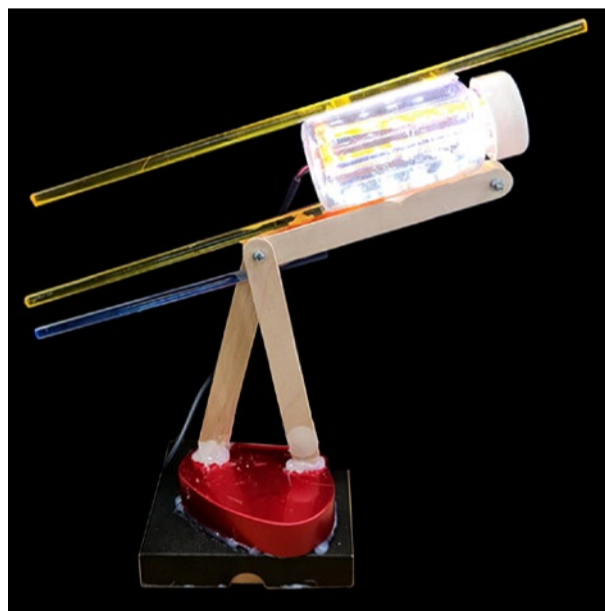


Open Evening Displays

The Art, Design & Technology Learning Area had a great time showcasing everything we do during the recent school open evenings. In Art we highlighted the superb paintings and sculptures that we create. In Food Technology visitors got to see how pasta is made in a variety of styles, with students giving live demos. In D&T parents marvelled at the 3D printer (designed and made by our legendary technician Mr Matera). The workshop also showcased the best of our students' work including the 6Rs lamps made from everyday objects, highlighting our commitment to sustainable design. ■



Top photo: Year 8 lamp project: Egg lamp by Anna Sharpe (8 Milton)



Left photo: Year 8 lamp project: Laser lamp by Zuhair Essak (8 Mandela)

Bottom photo: Year 8 lamp project: Vaseline tin by Rin Xue (8 Blackman)



A Call for Cans!

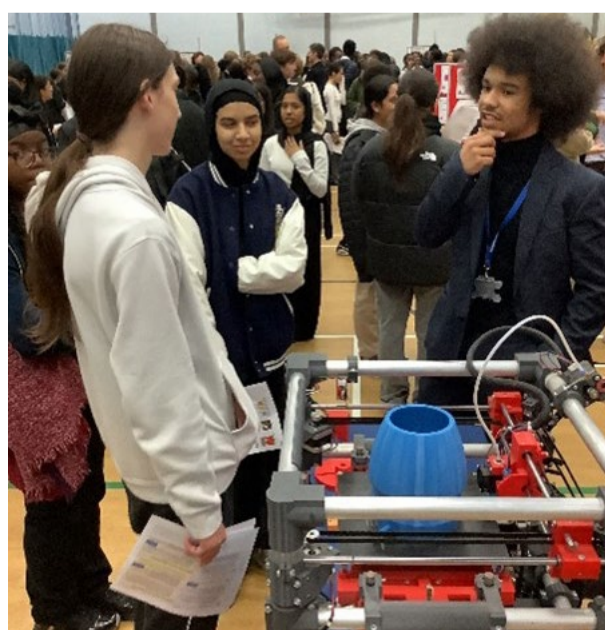
The Design & Technology Department has bought a brand new £4,000 aluminium casting centre. This incredible equipment will help GCSE and A-level students to create beautiful objects cast from aluminium. We now plan to 3D print moulds from wax and cast to create elaborate

aluminium products like the model below.

You can help: If you have any old items made from aluminium (pots, pans, drinks cans etc.) then bring them in to the D&T department. We'll turn your old cans into picture perfect products. ■



Aluminium Art



Kayliem Newell (13 Caine) talking to prospective Product Design students about 3D printing



GCSE Food Prep & Nutrition students making pasta



SIXTH FORM

Wakanda Forever

By Laila Yakubu (12 Wollstonecraft)

Last month I had the amazing opportunity to attend a private screening of Black Panther Wakanda Forever at the Everyman Broadgate. This was an incredible experience, in part due to the red carpet and free snacks, but mostly because I met and spoke to the one and only Leticia Wright, the star of the film.



The movie was incredible: a perfect balance of Marvel quality, humour, suspense, and action. With a star-studded playlist including Rihanna, Burna Boy, Tems and Stormzy, enthralling visuals of the Talokan world and a tender ending, Black Panther Wakanda Forever truly honours the legacy of the late Chadwick Boseman. After the film, Leticia Wright, Daniel Kaluuya (Get Out) and Kano (Top Boy) did a Q and A with the audience, discussing our thoughts on the film, the process of creating it and giving us many pearls of wisdom. I had the opportunity to speak with Leticia about her journey from being a kid in Tottenham to the star she is today.

I was invited to this fantastic event courtesy of the RADA Youth Company, a free 10-month acting programme. Each Saturday I and 15 other young people learn a range of acting skills that reflects the professional training offered at RADA, one of the leading

drama schools in the country. Since the first session I have had exposure to professional actors in rehearsal and free tickets to shows at the National Theatre. All of this has really helped me to work collaboratively in my Drama and Theatre Studies A-Level classes and, most importantly, given me the chance to connect with people as enthusiastic about theatre as I am! ■



Laila with actor Daniel Kaluuya

A visit to Bloomberg

Last month 15 students from Year 13 had the great opportunity to visit the financial company Bloomberg to find out more about the degree apprenticeships that they offer. Bloomberg delivered an afternoon of various workshops where our students learned about what the company does and the world of finance. They also met Bloomberg apprentices, received tips and advice on the application/interview process and had a fabulous tour of their impressive offices. ■



Year 13 students at the impressive Bloomberg offices

Grocers' Academy Awards 2022 Winners

Six students from Year 12 took part at this very prestigious event on Monday 21st November 2022 at The Grocers' Hall, hosted by The Worshipful Company of Grocers. This year's theme was "Financing the Future" where all teams were required to pitch to investors to raise up to £500,000 to create a youth-based business to support a sustainable future. Our team presented a remarkable idea; "Saving Our Planet In Style" which introduced their app Clozo. Through Clozo they proposed to market sustainable fashion with fair pricing to young people. The team were put through very tough questioning from the panel as well as the audience but responded strongly and won the title! Their next challenge will be in January 2023 at a Mansion House event hosted by the Lord Mayor, where they will face the winners of the Drapers', Merchants', Tailors' and Haberdashers' Academy Awards.

Congratulations on your well-deserved victory Mia Arthur, Angel Constantinou, Casper DGLISH, Joshua Inegbenose, William Ntaka and Farrel Ajayi! ■



The winning team with their trophy

Afternoon tea in the House of Lords

In July a group of Year 12 students were invited by TEAMGlobal to join them for a tour of the Palace of Westminster. Afterwards they were treated to a delightful Afternoon Tea in the House of Lords where both TEAMGlobal's chairman and a Lord of the House gave talks. ■

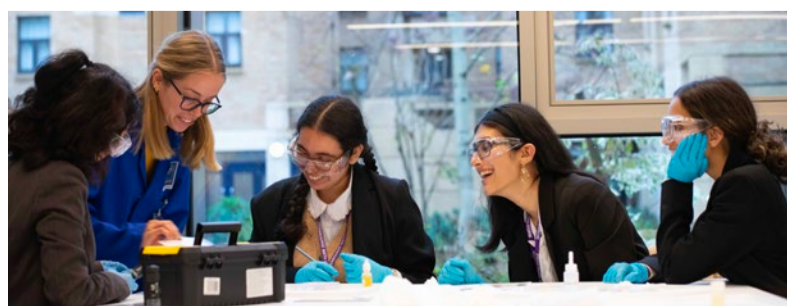


Enjoying the view from the Palace of Westminster

Welcome to Wadham!

Earlier this term, a group of Year 12 students visited Wadham College, University of Oxford. They were introduced to what studying at the University of Oxford is like and toured the college. It was a delightful surprise when we bumped into a previous Mossbourne student, Mohamed Munye Abrar (class of '18), who is now in his fourth year of study at Wadham! Students were lucky enough to attend workshops with faculty members. In the humanities workshop, students discussed and

challenged sources, and considered how to interpret evidence from a historical perspective. In the sciences workshop, students were faced with a locked box challenge and had to solve scientific puzzles in order to unlock the box. This workshop was led by members of the Department of Chemistry and students were impressive in finding creative solutions to scientific problems. This was a brilliant day for our Year 12 students who are now even more focused on achieving the highest grades! ■



Top: Sixth formers touring Wadham College

Left & above: Time for both laughter and concentration at the Wadham College workshops



Follow us on Twitter @Mossbourne6th for the latest news and updates! ■



Languages Enrichment Week

In the first week of November, students across the academy participated in 'Languages Enrichment Week', enjoying time away from their academic timetables to participate in an exciting programme of co-curricular activities.

All year groups had the chance to practice Flamenco dancing and to learn about "Día de Muertos" and Latin American culture with some tacos and the film Encanto. They were also able to try a new language, with introductory classes in Albanian, Portuguese, Russian and even ancient Greek on offer. Many spent a fun lunchbreak singing karaoke songs in different languages, while others learned some "football slang" vocabulary, tongue twisters and idioms.

We also welcomed Dr Paul O'Neill from the University of Sheffield and two of our Mossbourne alumni, the twins Ebenezer and Emmanuel Boakye (class of '21), who held a video conference with Sixth Form students about studying languages at university.

Throughout the week, students were given a "languages loyalty card" with five stamps to collect from the different workshops. Students who completed five workshops were entered into a draw for a special prize. Congratulations to Faith Monzali (8 Mandela) and Emily Nikolla (8Butler) who were the lucky winners of a £20 Amazon voucher each!

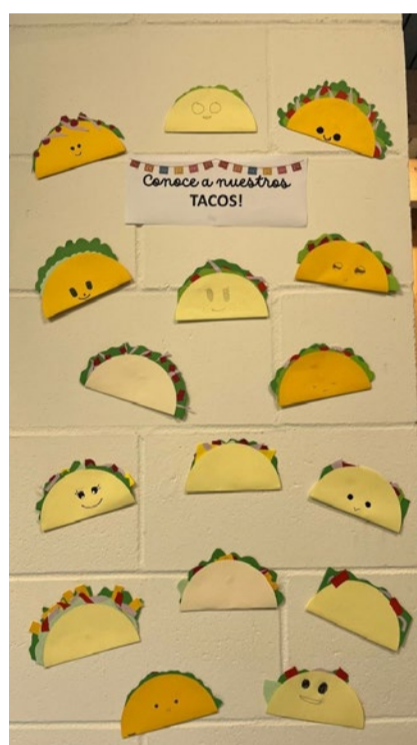
The MFL department would like to say a big THANK YOU to all students and staff who participated in the activities. We can't wait for next year! ■



Students enjoying introductory Latin



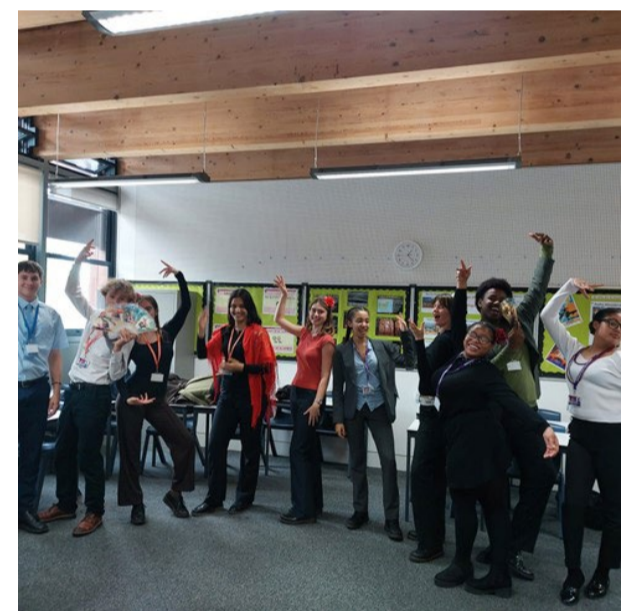
Plenty of entries in the MFL prize draw



Learning about Latin America through food...



... and culture



Sixth formers perfecting their flamenco moves

Spanish Tapas – a delicious way to learn

In the summer term, a group of lucky Year 8 students had the exciting opportunity to visit an authentic Spanish tapas restaurant in London. They ordered a marvellous selection of Spanish tapas: pimientos del padron, tortilla de patatas, and croquetas and, of course, churros con chocolate, all washed down with some limonada and agua mineral sin gas. ¡Qué delicioso! This trip was arranged while we were covering the topic of food in lessons. We decided to tie in the scheme of work with a real-life experience to expose students to the Spanish language via social interaction. They all had to interact with restaurant staff, reading the menu in Spanish, ordering food, asking questions... just like we have practised in lessons! The pupils thoroughly enjoyed this fun opportunity to put their knowledge to practical use and to enhance their understanding of Spanish culture. The day was a great success, and the churros were voted 'the best ever!' ■

Year 8 students learning Spanish over lunch



Year 13 Classics theatre trip to Dido's Bar

In October, Year 13 Classics and Latin students attended a production of Dido's Bar, a modern-day retelling of Virgil's Aeneid, performed in an old warehouse in the Royal Docks. This masterpiece of Roman literature forms a key component of both the Classics and Latin A-level courses.

Emphasising the role of both Aeneas and Dido as refugees, who travel across the Mediterranean in search of safety and new lives, the production recasts Dido as a bar manager who takes pity on the refugee Aeneas. She helps him with the necessary paperwork to attain the right to remain; in turn, he turns her mind away from his murdered husband towards the possibility of a new relationship. Before long Aeneas' head is turned by the opportunity to leave Dido and her establishment for the bigger stage of Bar Latinus, which brings him into conflict with its young, nationalistic manager Turnus. The goddesses Juno and Venus, owners of the two bars, oversee and manipulate the behaviour of the mortal characters.

The students made the most of the immersive theatre experience, interacting with the actors and even joining them onstage to dance. They engaged well with discussions after the performance on the director's choices and her understanding and reinterpretation of the text. Lili Fairclough (13 Wollstonecraft) said, 'we are hoping to welcome the director to a session with our new Classics Society to tell us more about her reading of The Aeneid and the process of creatively restaging a classic myth.' ■



A modern-day Aeneid



SCIENCE

Science Clubs

The enrichment clubs offered by the Science Department are an excellent way to increase your knowledge of the subject while having fun and being challenged. See below for details of the clubs and how to sign up! ■

Biology Olympiad

The British Biology Olympiad challenges and stimulates A-level students with an interest in biology to expand and extend their talents. It enables students to demonstrate their knowledge and to be suitably rewarded with publicly recognised certificates.

If interested, please speak to Mr Wolfensohn, Head of Biology. ■

Chemistry Olympiad

The UK Chemistry Olympiad is a unique opportunity for A-level students to push themselves further and excel in the chemistry field. Budding chemists will develop critical problem-solving skills, learn to think more creatively and get a chance to test their knowledge in new, real-world situations. They could even find themselves representing the UK at the prestigious International Chemistry Olympiad.

If interested, please speak to Dr Bhachu, Head of Chemistry. ■

Physics Olympiad

The British Physics Olympiad aims to encourage the study of physics and to recognise excellence in young physicists through thirteen annual physics competitions. Why not take the challenge?

If interested, please speak to Ms Clough, Head of Physics. ■

KS3 Science Club

The KS3 Science Club offers different experiments, challenges and discussions every week for students in Year 7 and 8. This term students have engineered marshmallow towers, extracted DNA, made slime, crash tested eggs and even dissected mammalian organs.

The club runs every Friday from 15.25-16.20, in room 611. Please speak to Mr Clifford-Brown, Head of KS3 Science, if you would like to join. ■



Science Club students discussing their next challenge



Friday experiments in Science Club



MATHS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

Join Moonhack 2022

Coding club at Mossbourne is up and running! The Moonhack challenges are being tackled by students across all year groups. So far, we have safely guided a satellite back to earth, programmed a satellite to send alerts when forest fires are detected and set up a device to warn rangers

when trees are begin cut down. Future projects include building and programming a Lego robot and creating LED light shows with Raspberry Pis.

There are still some spaces available, and all year groups are welcome! ■

MOONHACK 2022

JOIN OUR CODING ADVENTURE...

Where: **014**

When: **Tuesday Lunch**

To sign up: **See Ms Powell**

What is Moonhack?

Moonhack is a free coding challenge run every year by Code Club. Students around the world register to take part in some coding fun.

This year there will be 6 themed projects using Scratch, Python and Micro:Bits for everyone to have a go at.



MEDICINE PROGRAMME

Medicine Programme

This year's medicine programmes have kicked off on a high note with events planned for every year group in the school.

The Sixth Form Medicine Bursary Programme was again heavily oversubscribed, and the Year 12 Medical Society has 50 members - more than a quarter of the year group! There is a packed programme of speakers, from dentists and doctors to social workers and scientists, and a range of activities planned. Medicine Bursary Programme students are currently working on the annual research poster event which is a highlight of the first term.

Meanwhile the Year 13 medicine applicants have submitted their university applications and are starting their preparation for interviews. There are also three Year 14 students whom we are supporting with their applications to study medicine.

MedSoc 7-11, the programme for the main school, has termly events planned this year with Surgeon Captain Kate Prior (a doctor in the NHS and Royal Navy) speaking to Year 9-11, and Dr Helgi Johannsson, an NHS doctor and Vice-President of the Royal College of Anaesthetists, speaking to Year 7-8.

Our NHS Cadets programme has started again, with 25 pupils from Year 9 attending a weekly programme of healthcare-related subjects under the leadership of Miss Keegan.

We have a growing number of alumni medical students and doctors, as well as external volunteer students and doctors, that support our programme. We're grateful for all the efforts they put in to help make our full-school programme a success and unique among our education peers. ■

 SOCIOLOGY

The UN Society

The Sociology Department is running the UN Society on Mondays after school. The club is open to Year 9-13. See Miss White to sign up! Below, Kaan Yasar (11 Milton) reflects on the role of the UN and what he has learnt this term:

“The United Nations is our one great hope for a peaceful and free world”
— Ralf Bunche

The United Nations is at the core of diplomacy and peace in the world and is a leader in projects to promote global prosperity, stability, security, democracy, and human rights. With 193 member states each with the same power to vote, there is always one thing that brings all the nations together; they all want to secure a foundation for their nation’s future generations.



In the UN Society we have tried to replicate this. During the sessions the students communicate with others, not for themselves but as representatives of a nation. This not only allows for improvement in oracy skills but also allows them to be more creative and to discuss things that would not usually be talked about. In my time at the UN Society I have suggested, discussed, and disputed ideas, as well as writing and submitting resolutions. I have had a lot of fun in the process, and it was a boost to my school day, so I truly do appreciate being a part of it. ■

 LIFE SCIENCE

Understanding Road Safety

The Year 10 Life Science class demonstrated an excellent understanding of road safety on a recent trip out this term. Each pupil crossed the road using a zebra crossing, pelican crossing and traffic island and all were able to talk about the risks and safe practices necessary. Ms Street would like to say a huge WELL DONE to all students in the class! ■

Rayas Larmon (10 Blackman) demonstrating road safety excellence.



 RELIGIOUS STUDIES

R.S. GCSE Exams

The Religious Studies Department would like to say a huge WELL DONE to the current Year 11s who sat their R.S. exam last term. The students worked incredibly hard throughout the year with school interventions, Easter holidays revision school and, of course, independent revision. The exam results show that their hard work definitely paid off with approximately 50% achieving a grade 9. ■



Students celebrating their R.S. exams

Philosophy Clubs

If you are interested in philosophy, please see Miss Vock-Betton to sign up to one of these interesting clubs:

- KS3 Philosophy club on Tuesdays – 411 (after school)
- Y11 Philosophy Club on Tuesdays – 411 (2nd half lunch)
- Y12/Y13 Philosophy Society on Thursdays – 411 (2nd half lunch) ■

Colourful Playground

The playground was bursting with colour in late November when Year 8 students had spent an afternoon creating beautiful Rangoli patterns in celebration of Diwali. The lesson had to be postponed several times due to inclement weather, but the results were well worth waiting for. The students enjoyed themselves and their designs brightened up the day for everyone that passed by. ■



 HISTORY

A Visit to Auschwitz

By Talia Pithers (12 Cavell)

I and three other Year 12 students recently had the opportunity to participate in the Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project, with the intention of broadening our understanding of the Holocaust and reidentifying all those involved in this war, both victims and perpetrators, in order to better educate others from our experience.

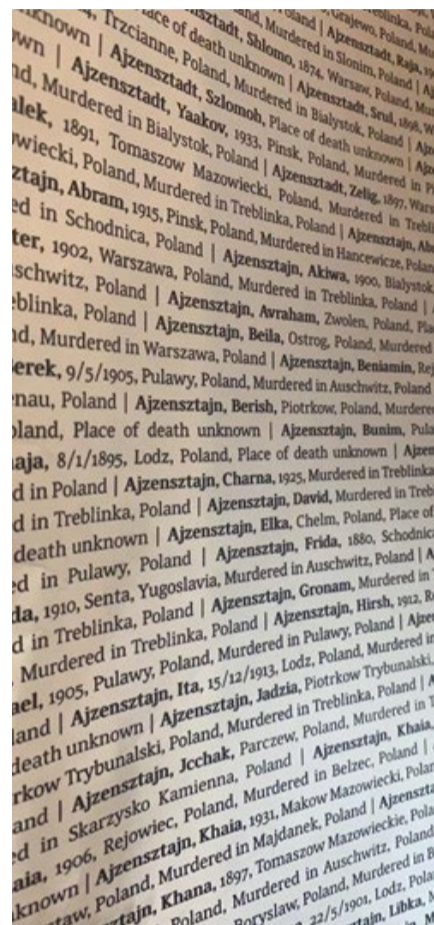
We began the project by defining the Holocaust as "the murder of approximately six million Jewish men, women and children by Nazi Germany and its collaborators during the Second World War." Though there were other groups persecuted during WWII, such as the disabled, communists, homosexuals, among others, the Holocaust refers solely to the persecution faced by Jews. It's important to remember it was not just Hitler, or the Nazis, but also various other collaborating countries that willingly sent their Jewish population to the concentration camps despite not subscribing entirely to Nazi policies or views.

Thereafter we had the privilege of visiting the Auschwitz I memorial and museum as well as touring Auschwitz-Birkenau to truly understand the atrocities that took place and appreciate the individual lives lost. We observed photos and videos of pre-war Jewish life to highlight its normality before the impact of the war. We saw rooms filled with the belongings confiscated upon arrival to the camps, from glasses to the shoes of children and babies. Seeing these possessions, we could not fail to see their owners as individual human beings, rather than just nameless victims.

We were reminded of the true nature of war, that of humans against humans. The Nazis were not simply monsters, they were human beings who made conscious decisions that resulted in the death of millions. We had the honour of hearing the

testimony of Janine Webber, a Holocaust survivor. We learned of her experience of hiding with a German family at the age of nine with her younger brother. The daughter of the family reported them to the Nazis and brought an SS soldier back to the home. He immediately shot her brother but spared her life. Perhaps he had a daughter or sister she reminded him of, we'll never know, but had it not been for this one act of humanity she wouldn't have lived.

If we continue with the misconception that the perpetrators lacked any humanity, separating them from ourselves to try and comprehend how anyone could commit such crimes, then we are not acknowledging that such horrifying events can easily be repeated. We must not view the Holocaust as an isolated event in history but as proof of what human beings are capable of. It's through continuous education and raising awareness that we can prevent further atrocities. ■



Above left: Image from The Book of Names exhibition in Auschwitz I



Above right: A Hebrew sermon displayed in Auschwitz and recited by the group's accompanying rabbi

Right: Holocaust survivor Janine Webber



Year 12 trip to the Tower of London

By Fulgis Luyeye (12 Berkoff) and Melina Malungu (12 Kingsley)

In November, the Year 12 history students were given the amazing opportunity to visit the Tower of London to support our study of the Mid-Tudor Crisis. We started our day by meeting in the common room after registration to be told a rough overview of what our day would look like. After this, we made our way to Tower Hill. Upon arriving at Tower Hill, we were split into two groups. One group was able to go on a self-guided tour around the area. The other group were taken on a pre-booked tour with a guide and after lunch we switched. Throughout the day we were given the opportunity to visit everywhere within the tower. On the self-guided tour, we were able to speak to the royal guards, who were not allowed to respond. We were at liberty to explore every inch of the tower of our own accord, which was extremely fun. This was beneficial for us as it helped us gain a better visual understanding of everything in the 16th century. In addition, we were able to see the Crown Jewels, the king's armour, and the torture tower. We were also told amazing stories such as the escape of John Gerard and we were able to see historical torture methods. After all this excitement we returned to school with plenty of new knowledge. ■





GEOGRAPHY

GCSE Geographers go to Walton-on-the-Naze

By Khadijat Salaudeen (11 Blackman)

In September, I and my fellow classmates went to a seaside town called Walton-on-the-Naze, which is located in Essex. The town was the site of a large raid by Viking Settlers... a bit of a fun fact if you ask me!

The purpose of our trip was to conduct research based on an enquiry question which we decided to test (for educational purposes). The research question was: Is longshore drift being controlled by hard engineering? Prior to us collecting data, we had to understand the theory and terminology. We also had to complete a risk assessment to ensure our safety.

When we arrived, we were separated into different groups with nominated team captains (I was lucky enough to be one of them). In our teams, we conducted a beach profile. This meant measuring the profile

of the beach using a ranging pole, tape measure and clinometer. We did this both on a protected and an unprotected stretch of the beach, to see if there was more sand at the back of the protected beach. If so, this would indicate that longshore drift is being controlled by hard engineering. It was very interesting to see the sea defences in real life, they looked a bit strange outside of a textbook!

The trip was very educationally beneficial, as it provided us with the data that we need for our GCSE. It was also interesting to encounter sea defences such as rock armour, groynes, and sea walls. As well as being educational, the trip was great fun. When we sat down beneath the sea wall and gazed at the endless sea as we tucked into our lunch (while being watched over by the seagulls), we knew we would remember this day as being filled with both laughter and knowledge! ■

Khadijat Salaudeen (11 Blackman) and Simran Kaur (11 Blackman) conducting a beach profile



ENGLISH

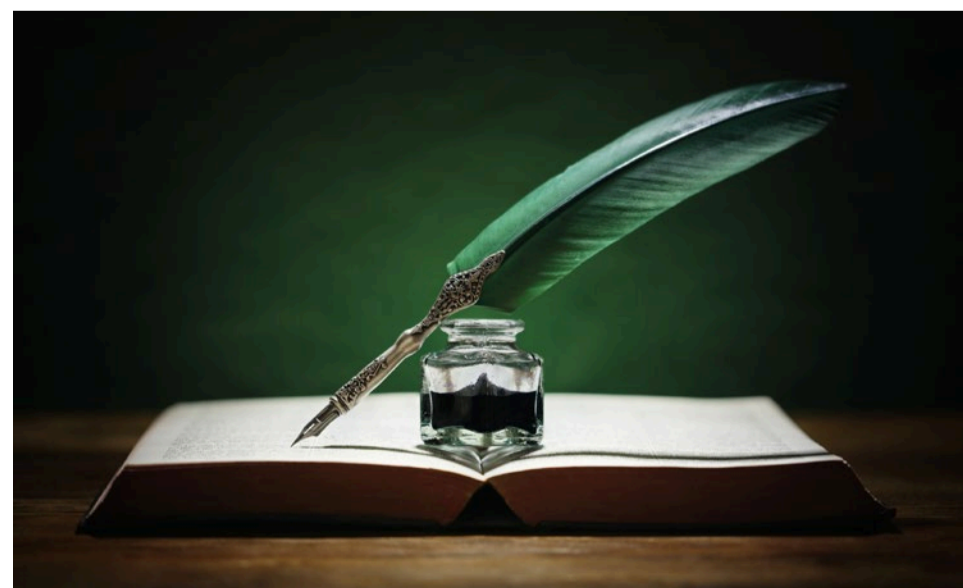
Creating Poetry with the UK Canal Laureate

As part of our Black History Month celebrations a group of Year 7 students had the opportunity to participate in two workshops with the impressive poet Roy McFarlane. Roy McFarlane is the UK Canal Laureate and he has been researching the canal history of the Docklands area to discover the hidden histories of the people who worked there, including its large community of Somali sea-men and women. Based on his discoveries, Roy wants to encourage local school students to respond to the history and heritage of their area through poetry.

For the first hour-long session, Roy worked with students to investigate the stories of the prominent local canal workers and dwellers. In the second session, he helped

students shape their findings into original poetry. Roy was incredibly impressed with the enthusiasm and commitment of the students he worked with. He particularly mentioned Eisah Howarth (7 Moore) who had the confidence to stand up in front of the whole group and perform his poetry! The students produced some truly wonderful poems. Here's a section of the poem by Hawlan Ahmed (7 Butler):

*Welcome to the Docklands
where skin tone is considered a crime
Welcome to the Docklands
where your skin tone is seen as proof
Welcome to the Docklands
where you don't have to be guilty to be accused
Welcome to the Docklands
the Docklands welcomes you* ■



Reading Plus creating avid readers

MCA is using the Reading Plus programme to help EAL students to improve their reading. Reading Plus helps students develop the skills they need to be fluent readers and lifelong learners. Most of the students in the class think that choosing their own book is the best part! Here are some of the students' thoughts on Reading Plus:

Shansel Guven (7 Moore) said: "I like that I get to choose the type of book I like. I think this lesson helps me, because at the start I was very bad with earning points, but now I get many greens."

Sena Kara (7 Butler) said: "I like Reading Plus because there is a reading guide that helps me to read in the right way."

Yannick Noah Pieter (7 Bevan) said: "It helps me read faster."

Zayn Baig (7 Blackman) said: "It helps me improve my English. I really recommend this!" ■

Reading Plus students at work



Creative Writing Clubs

Come to 005 (next to the library) every Monday lunchtime for a creative writing club fuelled by biscuits and a sharing of ideas! Students are currently working on creating their own fantasy world in which to set their story. Ask Mr Baker for more details.

Year 9 Comedy Club has continued this term and takes place every Wednesday lunchtime in 005 with Mr Baker. Students arrive, watch a sketch, are handed the script, and spend the lunch hour perfecting and performing their own version or interpretation. From Monty Python onwards, sign up to join us on a journey through comedy history! ■



Holiday Reading

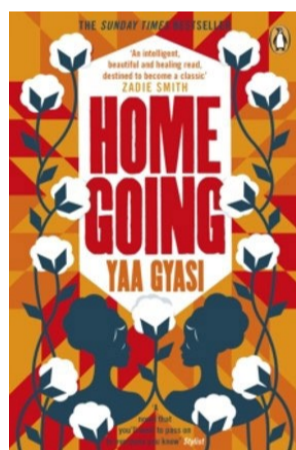
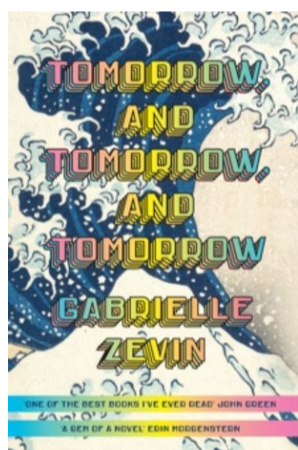
The Christmas holiday is the perfect time to enjoy some reading! Hackney libraries will be open during some of the Christmas period (check opening times on the Hackney libraries website). If you like e-books and audiobooks you can borrow them from home. You need to be registered with the library online and have a computer, tablet, or mobile phone to read on. You can register on the Hackney libraries website by clicking 'join the e-library'.



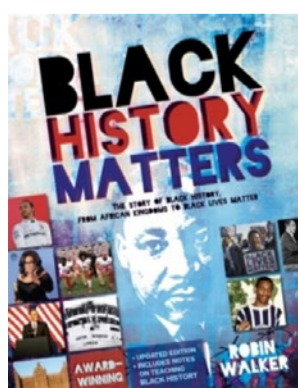
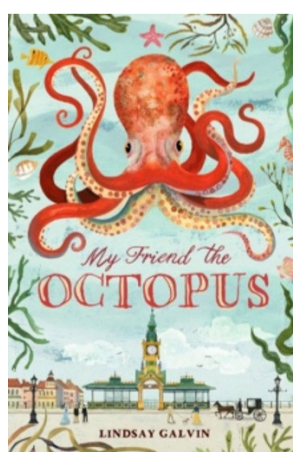
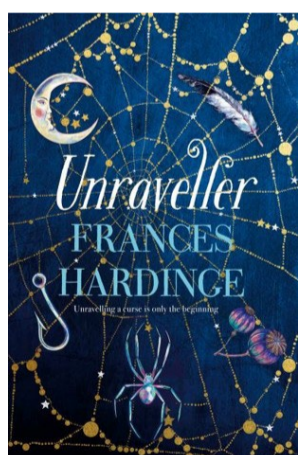
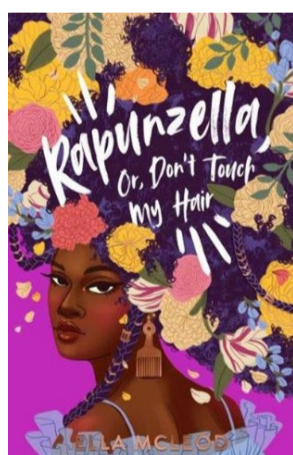
Recommended Reads

Many students have contributed to Book of the Week this term by recommending their favourite books. Ms Berggren would like to say a huge thank you to all contributors! Below are a few of this term's recommended reads. Perhaps you'd like to read one of them during the holiday?

Sixth Form recommendations



KS3/4 recommendations



Bookbuzz

During autumn term all students in Year 7 and 8 are traditionally welcomed to the library with an introduction to Bookbuzz – a wonderful Booktrust scheme offering them a free book from a choice of 17 excellent titles. This year the choice of books was even better than usual, leading to some very difficult decisions having to be made when the students spent

a lesson choosing which book to order. The most popular books were the mystery story *Waiting for Murder* and the non-fiction book *You Are a Champion*, co-written by Marcus Rashford. Students are encouraged to read several (or all!) of the books either by borrowing them from the library or by using the Bookbuzz swap-box which will be on Ms Berggren's desk next term.

17 choices on the Bookbuzz list meant there was something for everyone.



Word(search) of the Week

Can you find the eight words featured in Word of the Week this term? You can collect a print version of this wordsearch from Ms Berggren in the library.

E	Z	U	A	P	M	U	S	S	L	R	X	I	E
E	I	P	R	E	S	I	L	I	E	N	T	E	T
X	A	D	L	B	R	C	O	V	X	S	F	P	D
R	E	T	I	O	Y	C	I	T	A	T	S	C	E
O	P	N	C	G	H	S	E	D	P	E	M	D	Y
I	R	E	K	H	N	A	D	H	E	L	I	E	A
O	A	G	Y	E	L	J	P	Y	K	S	O	U	M
H	G	I	P	A	U	L	R	N	I	F	A	N	S
O	M	L	Q	E	W	J	A	G	J	L	D	H	I
E	A	I	L	E	T	N	A	C	F	V	A	Z	D
B	T	D	E	T	A	R	A	L	I	H	X	E	I
E	I	T	U	K	E	X	V	U	P	N	A	G	P
Y	C	O	A	C	N	N	Y	P	E	B	Y	U	P
A	N	Q	E	B	W	E	C	H	M	D	V	C	N

CYNICAL	DILIGENT	DISMAYED	ECSTATIC
EXHILARATED	PENSIVE	PRAGMATIC	RESILIENT



SUCCESS FOR OUR BLACK BOYS GROUP

Another Successful Term

After a successful pilot during last term, the Success for Our Black Boys Group returns, increased to include a larger cohort of 12 KS3 boys as well as four returning Year 10 ambassadors, 13 Sixth Form mentors and two supporting staff members (Mr Pearson and Mr Ungudi).

The KS3 boys meet every Wednesday with Mr James. The group is a consistent point of accountability to check in and discuss the previous week as well as tackle any challenges they may be facing. The group's weekly sessions and meetings are building resilience, accountability and self-awareness in the pursuit of making informed decisions and clarifying where their gifts and talents can lead them in the wider world.

Last academic year Mr James brought in successful Black professionals to speak on topics including motivation, tech design, mindfulness and problem solving. This year's introduction of the Sixth Form mentors and Year 10 ambassadors is crucial to bridging the gap between leadership and the KS3

cohort. The older students' voices are much more relevant and valid in this context. The boys really appreciate the regular support and the opportunity to have external professionals and older students share their time and expertise. The boys are becoming reflective thinkers who are owning their daily decisions.

Mr James (Early Intervention Lead): *"It has been a privilege to witness the group's interactions develop this academic year as they share their own experiences through the years, as well as their reasons for choosing to come back to MCA for further education. With the continued support of MCA leadership, teachers and parents/carers, the plan is to continue building a self-sufficient infrastructure of support from Sixth Form students down to our Year 7 on a yearly basis. There is also an absolute vision to expand the cohort to benefit more of our Black boys. The group continues to include parents/carers through termly face-to-face meetings and letter updates through PAM. It really does take a village!"*

Rufus Bangura (8 Milton): *"I want to work on being better behaved."*

Ubayy Thomas (8 Moore): *"... just to be successful and spend more time with my family"*

Robert Sarfo (7 Bevan): *"No matter how much you fall, always get up."*

Lucien Duquesnay (10 Bronte): *"I really wanted to be an ambassador because I can share what I have learned with the younger kids."* ■

The Success for our Black Boys Group and their mentors



COMBINED CADET FORCE

Lord Mayor's Show and Remembrance Day Parades

Local students from The Mossbourne Federation's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) were honored to spend a weekend in November taking part in high profile Remembrance events in London. The cadets paraded in the Lord Mayor's Show on Saturday 12th November. This was the first parade for many new cadets. The show was broadcast live on the BBC and a clip of the cadets marching is available on BBC I Player.

The cadets were also invited to the Sunday parade in Hackney by the Lord Lieutenant of Hackney. They attended the annual Act of Remembrance at St John's Church, followed by a reception in the town hall.

Mossbourne's Combined Cadet Force



The first parade for many new cadets



Peter Hughes, CEO of the Mossbourne Federation, said:

"It is a real honour for cadets to take part in these parades and they showed great pride on both occasions. Remembrance events are important to our community, and we are grateful for these opportunities to remember those who gave their lives."

Captain H Johnston, Contingent Commander, said:

"It is an honour and great privilege to lead our cadet force marking Remembrance Day. Both events will always remain highlights in our CCF Calendar." ■



**MOSSBOURNE
ROWING
ACADEMY**



PE

Sports Day 2022

Our 2022 Sports Day fell on 6th July. Nerves were rife amongst the PE department due to the previous year being rained off. Luckily, we were blessed with a beautiful summer's day this year. Sports Day began just after break time and students quickly filled Hackney Downs with a sea of red and white PE kits. They were greeted by the Clash's London Calling which really built the atmosphere and set us up for a great day of achievements.

Some highlights of the day:

Louis Reynolds (9 Bevan) breaking the school record in both the 1500m and 800m

Alex Nemeth (10 Butler) winning the Boys' 100m final

Ysabelle Owusu-Agyare (10 Moore) winning the Girls' High Jump

Bolu Odumosu (9 Bevan) winning the Year 9 100m final

Bianca Salviato Foresti (9 Milton) winning the Year 9 100m final

Greta Anguita Kiss (7 Bevan) winning the Year 7 1500m Girls' race

Dylan Oyston (7 Mandela) winning the Year 7 1500m Boys' race

Dakarai Innis (8 Butler) winning the Year 8 Boys' 100m race

Adeeva Olushoga (8 Bronte) winning the year 8 Girls' 100m race

Tess Jackson (8 Bronte) running both the 800m and 1500m race back-to-back and finishing second in both

Funniest moment:

The staff relay race. According to Mr Cameron, more staff fell over in this race than horses usually do at The Grand National.. ■

Sports Day action shot: Relay



Sports Day action shot: Middle-distance runners



Sports Day action shot: High Jump



Autumn Term Sporting Achievements

Islington Running League:
Dylan Oyston (8 Mandela) won the Emirates Challenge.

Hackney Cross Country:
Mossbourne Community Academy won the Hackney Schools' Cross Country meet.

This term has been extremely busy with fixtures of football, netball and cross country and a huge extra-curricular programme. Thank you to all the students who have been attending clubs and representing the Academy at these various sports, it has been wonderful to see so many full sessions! ■



MOSSBOURNE ROWING ACADEMY

Autumn Term Rowing Update

2021/22 rowing award winners

Our 2022-23 season started with a Sign-Up Day in early September.

Rowers and parents from both MCA and MVPA gathered in the auditorium to learn more about this year's training and racing schedule, as well as to celebrate last season's successes.

We also heard from several 2022 leavers who spoke about their experiences rowing at Mossbourne, and the positive effect participating in the sport had on their general wellbeing as well as their academic performance. ■



Maidstone Head

On 26th September, 50 Mossbourne rowers competed at the Maidstone Head held on the twisty River Medway. 150 crews competed over the 2.5km timed course, with Mossbourne Rowing Academy winning four events. ■

The J17 4x+ event was won by Violet, Ophelia, Tahiya and Isabella in a boat coxed by Raya



Half Term Training

During half term, we held training sessions in Hammersmith on the stretch of the Thames famous for hosting the annual Oxford/Cambridge Boat Race, as well as the Schools' Head of the River race.

Each year group had a full day of training on the course, learning the correct lines to take in racing, circulation patterns, and marker points. The experience was great preparation for racing at the Schools' Head of the River in March. ■

Half Term training on the Thames

