

Positive Discipline

supporting effective learning and personal development

This term saw the full launch of Positive Discipline in the academy. Since our Ofsted inspection in November, we have been working with all stakeholders to design and implement a new approach to the management of students focussed on consistent high expectations, rewards and sanctions. The response from students and staff has been really positive and we have seen a big difference in the climate for learning across the academy.

“There seems to be a much calmer environment around the academy. Students seem to understand the system and know what is expected without being challenged.”

Miss Kelly – Deputy Head of Year 9

Mr Harris from Science commented that the academy “feels like a different place”.

A key aspect of the system is focussed on rewarding positive attitude to learning and exceptional effort and work. Feedback from parents on previous rewards systems have indicated that parents and students wanted greater clarity about

what students were receiving awards for. The new stamp system clearly indicates subject awards, form tutor, year team, support staff, senior leadership team and Principal rewards. An amazing 61,000 stamps have been issued since the launch of PD at the start of term. Fortnightly, tutors meet with their students and are able to evaluate their progress in rewards and comments. Students are loving the new stamp system which is very visible and gives immediate recognition of their attitude to learning and effort.

“It is fun to collect the stamps and to see who can get the most” *Balpreet Singh– Year 9*

At the end of this term, I hosted the first 100+ rewards tea party. We have been immensely pleased at the large number of students who were eligible to attend this event – currently 179 students. This is reflective of the increasing numbers of students we have seen at our rewards ceremonies which have been held three times a year for the last two years. Our students love rewards! They respond extremely positively to having their efforts recognised and celebrated by staff.



As parents, I know that you will take every opportunity to reinforce this positivity from your children. Our congratulations go to the student with the most rewards across the academy – well done to Mahmuma Begum from Year 8 who has collected an amazing 305 stamps.

“Positive discipline has improved behaviour because more students want rewards and don’t want isolation!”

Owen Craig – Year 10

Improving attitude to learning in classes has been a key focus. For students who find it a challenge to respond to our high expectations and persistently disrupt learning, a clear comment system has been implemented. Mounting comments mean students are at risk of isolation. The new isolation rooms are being staffed by senior and middle leaders who maintain stringent systems in the room. Students who fail isolation subsequently are excluded from the academy. The impact of the isolation room in classrooms across the academy has been immense.

“Isolation is hard. I will not be in a position where I go in there again!”

Jamie Scarley – Year 10

Pastoral teams use the re-admission process to identify individualised support for students with the aim of preventing re-occurrence of the unacceptable behaviour that led to isolation in the first instance. A dedicated team of staff have received specialist training in areas such as anger solutions, anger management, protective behaviours, conflict resolution and communication skills. We are working together to support students address areas for development and enable everyone to make a positive contribution to the academy and make good progress as individuals.



The poster for the Summer Academy 2015 features a central sun character and a purple circular logo. It lists activities such as 'Come on a Day Trip to the Zoo', 'The CUBE', 'P.E ACTIVITES', 'Learn to Swim', 'Steelbacks Cricket Coaching', 'Dance Academy', and 'Make and Create a Project'. It also mentions 'Literacy, Numeracy & Science Challenges' and 'Cobblers Coaching Team'. The dates are '2 WEEKS AT WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY MONDAY 3rd AUGUST TO FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST 2015'. The sign-up information is 'SIGN UP NOW' with contact details 'ehowes@westonfavellacademy.org'.

JOIN OUR SUMMER ACADEMY!
2 WEEKS AT WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY
MONDAY 3rd AUGUST TO FRIDAY 14TH AUGUST
2015

Each day begins at 8.50am and ends at 3.30pm
LUNCH AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED

Weston Favell Challenge
THE CUBE

P.E ACTIVITES

Learn to Swim
Intensive Learn to Swim Programme

Steelbacks Cricket Coaching

Dance Academy

Make and Create a Project

Literacy, Numeracy & Science Challenges

SIGN UP NOW

For more information and sign up forms contact: ehowes@westonfavellacademy.org

SUMMER SCHOOL IS ONLY OPEN TO NEW YEAR 7 STUDENTS - SEPTEMBER 2015

A positive START to Positive Discipline

Watch this space!

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SPEND SPEND SPEND

Students must spend all their Purple Points before the end of the summer term.

Points **cannot** be carried over into the next academic year, so make sure you watch out for the opening times of the Purple Points store in Term 6.



STOP PRESS • STOP PRESS

The Year 10 Charity Event
on Friday 22nd May raised an incredible
£2,1116.07

Read the full article in the next newsletter.

REMINDER

Students must
be on site
at 8.30am

for line up at 8.35am





Welcome to the summer term edition of the academy newsletter. It is hard to believe that another full academic year is almost over. Since Easter, our focus across the academy has been supporting students in Year 11 and the Sixth Form in their final preparations for external examinations. During the Easter vacation, the academy was a 'hive of activity' with large numbers of staff and students running and attending revision sessions. This year we introduced the Independent Learning Centre for Year 11 students to access support before, during and after school. This resource, led by Mrs Russell-Jones and her team, has been immensely successful, and the dedication and commitment of our current Year 11 students has been extremely impressive.

Since November 2014 the academy has had three inspections; Ofsted in November, a DfE visit in January and finally an HMI visit in March. I am delighted to say that since our full inspection in November in each subsequent visit we have demonstrated the progress we have made towards the areas for improvement identified, the most notable of these being our new Positive Discipline model. Wayne Norrie, our Executive Principal and a former Senior HMI, commented on the positive reports coming from these visits.

Once again this year our sporting success across continues to be a source of great pride. In April, once again, we were privileged to host the Greenwood Academies Trust Academy Shield competition. We were delighted to welcome 450 students from eight academies across the Trust and even more delighted with our success. The girls had an outstanding day unbeaten in every event and retaining the overall Academy Shield. We also had success in the Academic Challenge so we continue to set the bar high for future years.

War Horse continues to attract attention and will make another public appearance in the Northampton Town Carnival parade in June. Watch out for the Weston Favell Academy War Horse float. Building on the success of War Horse last year, we are now eagerly anticipating our Legacy Exhibition. Legacy is once again a cross-curricular project led by DT and will focus on the past, present and future – there is great anticipation across the academy for this exhibition which will be open on Thursday 9th July and again in September for our awards evenings.

In the summer, we will be saying goodbye to several members of teaching staff. Miss Bointon's secondment with the academy comes to an end and she will re-join Nottingham Academy, Mrs Phipp leaves us to become an Assistant Head at a school in Melton Mowbray, Mrs Robinson is re-locating to join her family in Kent, Mrs McCahill will be focusing on spending more time with her young family, Mr Roberts, Mrs Alaka and Mr Okono are all taking up positions at schools in Bedfordshire, Mr Hearn is leaving to pursue his charitable work, Mrs York is retiring and finally Mrs Johnson-Isles and Mrs Baker both leave us for promotions in the town. Equally, we are also saying goodbye to Mrs Hayes one of our Teaching Assistants and Mrs Wakefield our Examinations Manager who has given loyal and tremendous service to the academy ensuring that all our external examinations run smoothly, which in a large academy like ours is a challenging task. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all these members of staff personally for their contribution to the academy and wish them well in their new ventures and the next stages of their lives.

*Rachel Steele
Principal*

NOTICE TO ALL STUDENTS

Please look after your student card at all times and keep it safe for the new academic year.

You will **NOT** automatically receive a new card in September so you must look after it in order that you can print and purchase your lunch.

Replacement cards can be purchased from Student Finance at break and lunch times for a charge of £5.00.

WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY MAKING A BIG BANG!



Following on from the success of our War Horse Event last year, a selection of students were recently invited to participate at the “The Big Bang Fair” at the NEC Arena.

This award-winning event took place in March and included a combination of exciting theatre shows, interactive workshops and exhibits, together with careers information. It was led by EngineeringUK, and nearly 70,000 visitors including teachers and students attended to celebrate engineering and science, as well as highlight the career possibilities that exist for young people within these areas.

During the event, our stand was extremely popular with visitors, and camera crews interviewed our students about our War Horse Project. This footage will feature in the Government’s Department for Business, Innovation and Skills film on outstanding STEM initiatives.

Following on from this event, “Joey” and the Creative Curriculum Team have been invited to attend the SSAT (The Schools Network) National Conference in Manchester. This prestigious event will allow us to share our War Horse Project with teachers and senior leaders from other schools. The SSAT are an organisation committed to changing education by encouraging innovation and collaboration between schools.

At local level, we have also been invited to have our own Weston Favell Academy “War Horse” float at the Northampton Carnival on the 13th of June. Should you wish to participate please contact Mr Williams as soon as possible on pwilliams@westonfavellacademy.org



Art inspiration

In the Art department, we like to get out and about for our inspiration.....so we decided to go down to London for the day and check out the sights, galleries and chewing gum!

Our Sixth Form Art and Photography students met bright and early, grabbed a brew and headed to our first stop, The National Portrait Gallery, Leicester Square. This exhibition had loads to see: there was The National Portrait competition and lots of art and sculptures by Grayson Perry. (You may know him off the telly on Channel 4 'Who are you?' documentaries)



Next stop, the Tate Modern across the River Thames via the Millennium Bridge. This is where we met CHEWING GUM MAN, AKA Ben Wilson! Ben goes around London making beautiful, quirky pieces of art from old pieces of gum people have spat out and stuck to the floor! This sounds gross but Ben takes so much time and care producing each colourful tiny piece of art, it is hard not to be impressed and he had made over 200 gum paintings! We spent ages chatting to him and photographing his work. So inspiration can truly come from anywhere! There were some nice bits in the Tate Modern too!



Finally we headed to Covent Garden. Pizza and opera was enjoyed, rickshaw rides taken, a purchase of a dress, and Mr Blissett and I had a lovely time eating cake and visiting the Moomin Shop.

Feeling all inspired and sleepy we headed home. Art trips are the best! Now time to start creating...

Miss E Walker - Teacher of Art



Singing our way to success

Early on a Saturday morning in March, the Weston Favell Academy choir wiped the sleep from their eyes and made their way to the Salvation Army Citadel in Kettering to participate, for the first time, in the Kettering Eisteddfod.



After weeks preparing a couple of tricky songs, the choir faced the challenge ahead. The nerves were palpable as they mounted the stage to begin their programme. The first song was 'Wings' by Carl Strommen and began with solos from Bobby Joynes and Millie-Jayne Fitzell. They were confident and gorgeous and really helped to settle the nerves of the rest of the group. The set concluded with 'I've Had the Time of my Life' from the film, Dirty Dancing. The choir really enjoyed this song and dealt with the 3-part singing manfully. Again a stunning solo from Thomas Sabey helped to set the scene, ably supported by Amy-Jo Jarvis and Shannon Smith.

It was only a short wait for the adjudicator to make a decision. The choir were thrilled to be awarded 2nd place, only to be beaten by a theatre school and by the narrowest of margins.

We can safely say that this was an unforgettable experience and one that we will definitely be doing again next year.

"We really enjoyed it and had loads of fun. We were still able to sing our hearts out at a ridiculous hour of the morning. It was a life changing experience and it proves that if we put our hearts and soul into something, we can achieve greatness. We were the best we could be and we hope you could be inspired. We had the time of our lives."

Thomas Sabey and Amy-Jo Jarvis (Year 10)

"We practiced for what felt like forever but when we finally got there, it all paid off"

Bobby Joynes (Year 7)

Miss C Lytle - Teacher of Music



HISTORY BROUGHT TO LIFE

"I really enjoyed the sketches of key events being acted out, it brought the past to life and made me think what it would have been like to live through events such as the Great Depression."

Sophie Dunklerley Year 10

On 16th March, 20 GCSE History Students made their way via train to the Coventry Belgrade Theatre to take part in a revision conference focused on their Germany 1919-39 exam.

The conference provided a unique and exciting opportunity for students to revise their subject knowledge and skills for history exams this summer.

"The acting was really enjoyable and helped me to remember the events in a different way"

Kelly St James Boyde Year 11

The conference was interactive and the past was brought to life by sketches of key historical events being performed by professional actors. Throughout the conference, there were also talks by leading historians and examiners who gave students advice and guidance on how best to prepare for the GCSE history exams. The revision conference complemented lessons well and helped students to revise the unit in an interactive way. The students that attended the conference were all exceptionally well behaved and felt that they benefitted from the experience.

Miss J Hodgkinson, Teacher i/c History



WORLD CHALLENGE AT WFA

Weston Favell Academy is currently in the early stages of preparation for a World Challenge expedition to India in 2016. This is an opportunity for current Year 10, 11 and 12 students to take part in an expedition through fundraising and sponsorship to give them an experience of a lifetime.

The project phase

This will form part of the expedition where students will work on a sustainable project involving maintenance or repair work, painting, teaching, organising sporting events, or installing much needed facilities for the local community or school.

Students will be participating in activities from now until the start of the trek in order to each raise nearly **£2600** each and would love the support of the community. If there are any local businesses that would like to get involved, please contact Mrs Correa-Humphries via email zcorrea@westonfavellacademy.org or via the school on **01604 402121**.



GIFTED AND TALENTED CONFERENCE - OXFORD TOWN HALL

The time had come again for a group of our Year 12 students to attend a gifted and talented conference at Oxford City Hall. Aimed at the top 5% academically more able students in the country, this event was a unique opportunity for students to meet and listen to top academics speak. The conference offered a balanced academic programme aimed at stimulating thought beyond the constraints of the curriculum. The focus was topics which can be approached from many different disciplines in order that students begin to see connections between different areas of study and the bigger picture.

During the morning session, students listened to speakers on some very challenging and complex theories including chaos theory, and the origins of the universe. They also had a lecture aimed at developing their thinking and getting them to think 'outside of the box'. The lecture discussed the question of whether statues can move! Students found this a good way of thinking 'outside of the box' as they had to think about the definition of statues and movement ie can people be moved by statues? Therefore can statues move?

In the second session of the afternoon, there were lectures from various Oxbridge professors: one was on the development of students' technology and what the future of technology may look like. The other was on physics, quantum physics and chaos theory.

A debate also formed part of the afternoon session with students able to question the speakers on the issues they had presented on. Our Sixth Form students took part in the debate **'This house believes that personal preference is all that matters in morality'**.

Students found the day challenging and a valuable insight into university life.

Mr A Litchfield - Head of Geography

CELEBRATION TIME!

All students with 95% attendance for the spring term were invited to what has now become a regular event, the Celebration Assembly. This term, 751 students were on the invitation list each receiving a bar of chocolate and the chance to go into a draw for the top prize of a £25 gift voucher.

The winners for each year group were:

Year 7	Storm Burke
Year 8	Elliot Frost
Year 9	Ebrahim Mohammed
Year 10	Taylor Ferdinando
Year 11	Lana Greatorex

All students have the chance of winning the 'Most Improved Attendance' for each term.

The winners were:

Year 7	Emily Treagus
Year 8	Andrei Cruceru
Year 9	Iqbal Ahmed
Year 10	Evie Walker
Year 11	George Proud

Students also received prizes for Accelerated Reader achievements with the highest percentage of points secured by Tasnim Ali and Lucy Van Uem. The 2 students with the 'Most Determination to Achieve' were Madalina Cazan and George Withington.

We also celebrated the students who were on target to achieve their end of year grades. The winner for each year group was randomly drawn by Mrs Steele and gift vouchers were presented to:

Year 7	Tony Bodily
Year 8	Jack Southgate
Year 9	Moqam Noori
Year 10	Harrison Reeves
Year 11	Lois Watson

Will you be invited to the next Celebrations Assembly in July?
Ensure your attendance stays above 95% to be in with a chance of winning.



WILLEN LAKES - AIMING HIGH

On 20th March 2015, 100 students from all year groups were taken to the Aerial Extreme Course at Milton Keynes: a well-deserved reward for students who are on target in most subjects, have 95%+ attendance and no behaviour points.

The day started well with a partial solar eclipse on our journey helping build the excitement for the day. On arrival, there was trepidation and nerves from students and staff as the scale of the course became real. We were set up in teams and began our activities: the activities ranged from team building on the ground to the highest of rope courses.



The team building involved lots of trust and support, and our students took to it brilliantly giving each other the encouragement needed to complete the tasks from the blind folded courses to the human pyramids.



The students and staff then moved on to the high ropes which is an assault course 5 to 15m in the air. As well as the high ropes course, there was also a 14m power fan drop which felt very high indeed! Dressed in our fetching hard hats and harnesses, everyone had a try at some of or the entire course: it was wonderful to see our students support and encourage each other to complete the course. And if their encouragement wasn't enough the instructors were there on hand to help very step of the way!

In all, the day was fantastic and a wonderful way to thank all of the students who work hard every single day. Well done to everyone who was selected for this trip and I look forward to future trips like this.

Mrs J Clifford - Deputy Head of Year 8



COMIC RELIEF ANTICS!! - YEAR 7

Congratulations to Year 7 on another fantastically organised charity event in support of Comic Relief's Red Nose Day.

On Friday 13th March, Year 7 ran a series of events at lunchtime including a cake sale, timed assault course, busking, face painting, karaoke and donations to play football on the astro. Students and staff were also invited to wear red clothing from the waist upwards for a £1 donation. Well done to all those who put in the extra effort with wigs, make-up and other red accessories!



Many thanks to everyone who supported the event in raising the fantastic amount of

£1,113.91

Mrs E Phipp - Head of Year 7



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YEAR 7 SING OUT

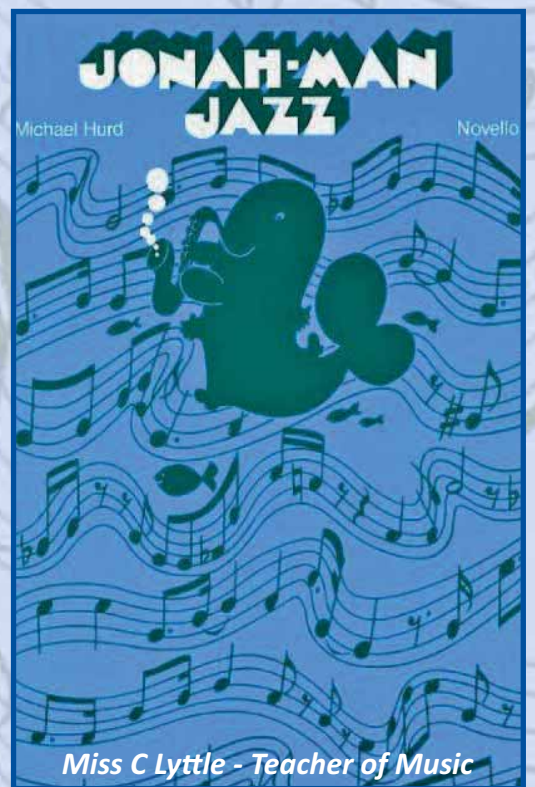


As part of lots of new and exciting developments in the music department, Year 7 took the time in lessons from Christmas to February to prepare to sing the Oratorio 'Jonah Man Jazz' by Michael Hurd. This was a great opportunity for all students to be able to rehearse and participate in a large-scale performance.

The Oratorio tells the biblical story of Jonah and the Whale through song and narrations. The lyrics were set to music in the jazz style and the students were very engaged in lessons, learning the songs, narrations, and working with students from other classes.

The performance was on 11th February and saw 174 students on stage, being accompanied by the academy orchestra. Although the performance was short, parents and friends were amazed and delighted at the sight and sound of these wonderful young people.

Next year, we will be performing another Oratorio with the new Year 7 students, this time in support of saving the Amazonian rainforest. It's called 'The Emerald Crown' by Debbie Campbell and will be performed shortly before the October holiday. Watch this space for further details.



ROMANTIC CLASSICS TRIP

This trip was organised as a reward for the members of the Weston Favell Academy Orchestra. These students have dedicated a lot of their time coming to rehearsals and playing in school events such as the Celebration Assembly and the end of term lunchtime performances in the atrium.

The concert included famous works from Mendelssohn, Dvorak and Tchaikovsky, with the pre-concert talk given by the soloist of the evening, Tasmin Waley-Cohen, a world renowned violinist. This talk showed the pupils of the orchestra what it is like to have a career as a musician, and hopefully inspired them to keep practicing!

Miss N Billett, Teacher of English and Music



CHRISTMAS JUMPER MANIA!

I would like to thank all staff and students for their hard work and dedication on the Year 9 fundraising day back in December. It was another very successful day where WFA students demonstrated exemplary behaviour and contributed to achieving a phenomenal fundraising total of

£1,300.00

It was pleasing to see so many students and members of staff working together to raise money for Band Aid 30, a charity supporting the fight against fatal diseases in West Africa.

This was made possible by the Year 9 fundraising team creating a Christmas themed day. Students and staff introduced the Christmas spirit by arriving to the academy in Christmas jumpers. The Christmas Fayre continued the Christmas theme and generated a 'lovely atmosphere', and gave those students who helped a sense of achievement and a taste of work experience.

Well done to everyone involved and for the tremendous support from students and staff!

Mr Berrill - Head of Year 9



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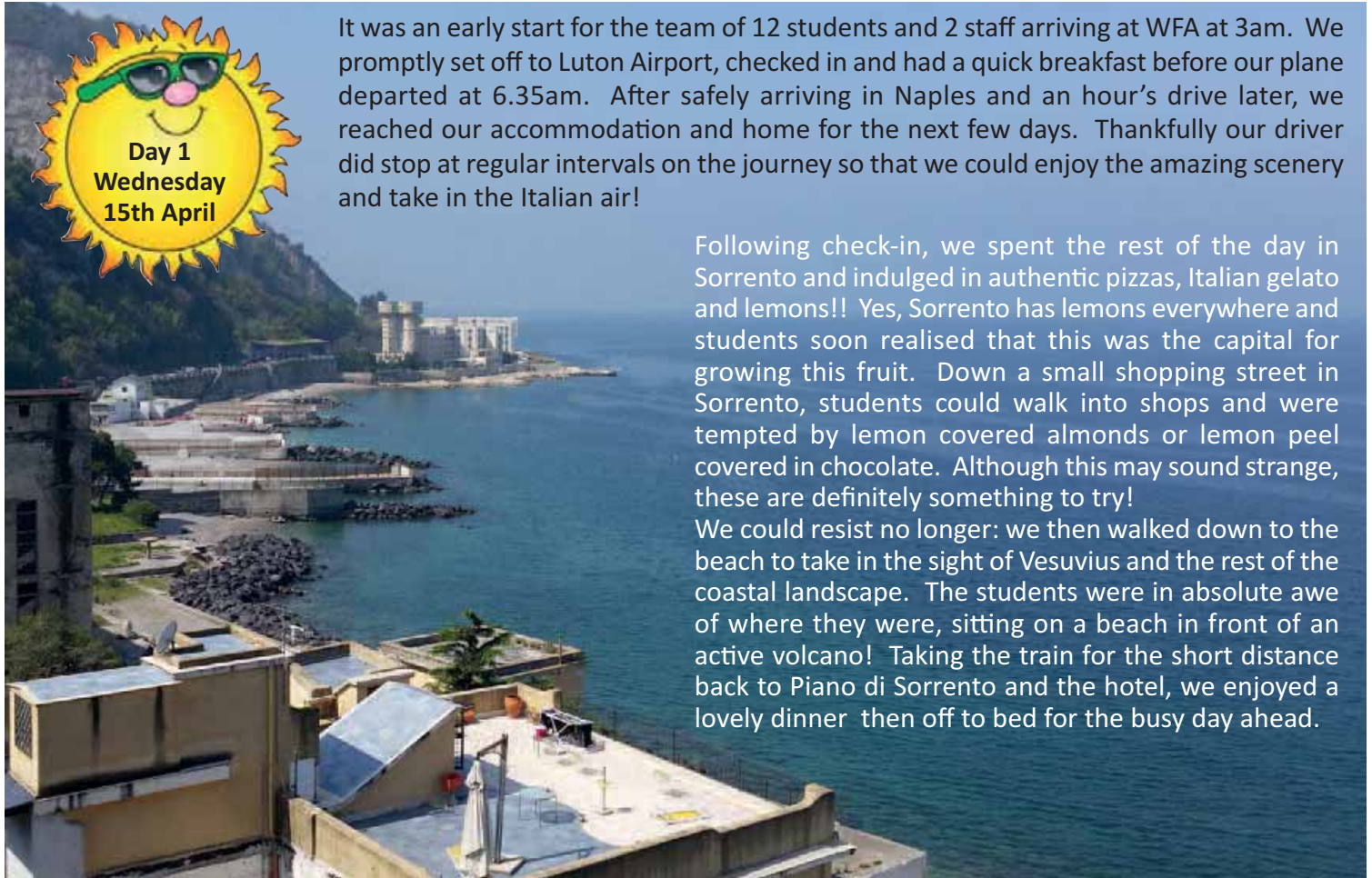
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SIXTH FORM SUNSHINE IN SORRENTO



It was an early start for the team of 12 students and 2 staff arriving at WFA at 3am. We promptly set off to Luton Airport, checked in and had a quick breakfast before our plane departed at 6.35am. After safely arriving in Naples and an hour's drive later, we reached our accommodation and home for the next few days. Thankfully our driver did stop at regular intervals on the journey so that we could enjoy the amazing scenery and take in the Italian air!



Following check-in, we spent the rest of the day in Sorrento and indulged in authentic pizzas, Italian gelato and lemons!! Yes, Sorrento has lemons everywhere and students soon realised that this was the capital for growing this fruit. Down a small shopping street in Sorrento, students could walk into shops and were tempted by lemon covered almonds or lemon peel covered in chocolate. Although this may sound strange, these are definitely something to try!

We could resist no longer: we then walked down to the beach to take in the sight of Vesuvius and the rest of the coastal landscape. The students were in absolute awe of where they were, sitting on a beach in front of an active volcano! Taking the train for the short distance back to Piano di Sorrento and the hotel, we enjoyed a lovely dinner then off to bed for the busy day ahead.

Everyone met in the dining room ready for breakfast at 7.30am. The guide was meeting us with the mini bus at 8.00am to travel to Pompeii and Vesuvius. After breakfast, students prepared themselves with water, sun cream, appropriate shoes and clothing ready to travel to Pompeii. The guide was fantastic and on the journey talked to us all about the history of the area.

On arrival in Pompeii, the guide stayed with us talking us through its history and leading us to different areas to see some amazing sights. The site itself needed 4 hours to visit but that was only because two thirds was either being renovated or restored. If the entire site was open, you would need two days!! The students avidly listened to every word and asked meaningful questions about what they were witnessing. The casts of the people who had died left a sombre feel to the mood, as students realised the impact that the eruption from Vesuvius has had on this community. The next step was to see the volcano itself.

Before embarking on the trek up the volcano, the guide stopped off at a beautiful restaurant where we were given the opportunity to have a drink and a pizza at a very reasonable price! The group chatted intently over their lunch at some of the amazing sights that had just witnessed, without even realising that the best was still to come.

The minibus took us as far up the volcano as was possible then it was our job to walk the rest of the way. Students were eager to get to the top but soon realised how big this active volcano was. It was a hard and exhausting walk to the top but when we arrived, the view was exceptional. The crater was immense and students were keen to take pictures of evidence for their geographical studies. Students discussed these features with no prompting, from the type of volcano and rock that was being seen, to the impact that tourism was having. There were many examples of rock bombs and ash sediment which allowed us to see first-hand the power of an active volcano.

After trekking back down the volcano, we collected some souvenirs from the small shops at the bottom and made our way back to the minibus. The winding road that led us back to the main road was particularly interesting but this was all part of the adventure of experiencing a trip such as this!



SIXTH FORM SUNSHINE IN SORRENTO



Once back at the hotel, we freshened up and met for a briefing on the top terrace. Here students talked about their experience and linked it back to their learning and the focus of the trip. All students confidently and enthusiastically contributed to the presentation, making the trip all the more worthwhile and allowed us teachers to see the impact that such a trip has on a student's learning. After dinner, we all decided to take a stroll down to the small beach to watch the sunset over the beautiful volcano that we had just trekked up.



**Day 3
Friday
17th April**

The Island of Capri

Another early start, we met our tour guide at 7.45am and took the train to Sorrento. After a short stroll to the harbour, we boarded a boat to take us the 15 minute trip over to the island of Capri and were treated to an absolutely breath-taking experience.

Capri's coastline was beautiful. Once there, we transferred to a smaller boat that was to take us on a one hour trip around the island. Students had the upper deck and could take in the vision of miles of cliffs and caves, discussing the coastal features and rock formations as they went. The tour guide discussed the different grottos and pointed out specific areas where rare goats and birds could be found.

We then took the tram up to the main area in Capri. From here, it was evident that the roads were narrow and the cars were made to match this: there weren't many but the cars that were there were very small, even the ambulances!! We walked through these maze-like streets until we came to an end where we could see a natural arch: a perfect photo opportunity whilst taking in the glorious sights around us! Making our way back to the centre, we then enjoyed some free time to investigate other areas of the island for ourselves, mainly the shops! Returning on the 5.30pm boat to Sorrento, we made plans to freshen up and get ready for our last night in Italy which included heading back to the beach one last time. Everyone agreed that this trip was not only educational but a truly amazing experience to be part of.



**Day 4
Saturday
18th April**

Our return home

Breakfast at 7am then off to Napoli airport. Our time in Italy had come to an end but I know that the memories of this trip will last forever. Ciao!

"It was a pretty 'zesty' experience. I took part in things that I wouldn't usually do. Mount Vesuvius was something I never thought I would be able to see but once I was up there, the experience was incredible. Experiencing the local culture was incredible too, since it is completely different to here in England. Pompeii was very historic and interesting: you felt like you were going back in time."

Frasier Bradley, Year 12

"It gave me an experience that was memorable for a lifetime as we took part in things that we wouldn't usually experience back in England. It was a great chance to see some breath taking sights e.g. the view from Vesuvius, and a good opportunity to see some geography in action as well as experiencing local cultures."

Damon Newman, Year 12

"It gave me an experience that I will treasure for a lifetime. The sense of achievement I gained from climbing Mount Vesuvius was out of this world. Full of stunning geographical sights that you cannot get in many other countries."

Chris Brown, Year 12

Mrs Z Correa-Humphries - Head of Humanities



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COUNTY NETBALL SUCCESS

Abbie Crook, Clara Williams, Lucy Van Uem,
Anna Inglese, Storm Burke, Olivia Reeves,
Olivia Savkova, Emilie Gilbert,
Hannah Loryman, Bethany Knight

Our Year 8 girls did get some better results and narrowly missed out on the semi-finals with one or two goals in it. It was a bitterly cold day and the girls were huddling to keep warm and keep those shooting arms on fire! Jo Jo, Lilli and Olivia worked extremely hard on the attack with Lucy Montgomery and Sophie Lane making the most interceptions I have ever seen in a netball game in defence! Takara Fenton captained the team with 50/50 wins on the toss! Unfortunately you did not eat Jo Jo's record!

The girls beat Malcolm Arnold Academy, Kettering Buccleuch Academy, The Duston School (town schools) and lost to Guilsborough, Wellingborough and Pitsford Grammar.

Mrs E Baker
PE Teacher

March 9th and 16th saw our Year 7 and 8 netball teams battle it out against schools across the county in the County Netball Championships.

The Year 7 girls worked very hard in their tough group playing teams such as Quinton House, Wellingborough and Northampton High School. Some games were extremely close and others not so BUT the girls battled hard right until the end. Storm, our hotshot shooter, scored 3 goals showing excellent precision and control. Abbie, Emilie and Hannah showed great determination in defence stopping a lot of passes entering the circle. A great, committed start to your netball career here at Weston Favell, girls!

All deserve a mention,
thoroughly well done!



Takara Fenton, Lilli Duplock, Lucy Montgomery,
Tally-Ann Roberts, Victoria Hickinbotham, Kerry O'Connor,
Olivia Liburd, Sophie Lane, Ava Cooke, Ellie Thorpe,
Jo Jo Sackie-Mensah



ALL-SCHOOLS VARSITY MATCH

Wednesday 4th March 2015

Northampton XV v Wellingborough & Corby XV

Wellingborough Rugby Club



As Head of PE, I was invited to select 5 rugby players from Year 8 to represent the Weston Favell Academy at the first ever Varsity match between Northampton Schools and Wellingborough & Corby Schools.

The 5 players were:

Alec Alcock, Adam Condon, Kieran Bolger, Jacob Moriarty and Lewis Nash-McLellan

It was a beautiful afternoon at Wellingborough Rugby FC and literally 2 minutes following kick off, Wellingborough & Corby were in front! It was a battle against the wind in the first half and Northampton struggled to clear the ball in open play and in rucks. Wellingborough & Corby went 10 points ahead in a matter of minutes. Northampton battled back to lead at half time by 15 points to 10.

After the turn around, Wellingborough & Corby came back even stronger scoring 3 tries in quick succession.

As the match progressed and fitness began to make a difference, Northampton scored once more but Wellingborough & Corby were too strong at the end scoring another 3 tries to win the match 35 – 20.

A fantastic afternoon was had by our 5 players, the other 30 players representing all of the schools, and the excellent parental support plus teachers and coaches. Kieran Bolger won the prize for the best tackle during the match, well done Kieran!

Many thanks to the RFU and in particular Ollie J for organising this brilliant event.

This event draws to an end of a very successful season for the boys' squads of players...watch this space for news of the girls' teams!

Mr M Phipp - Head of PE



Trip frenzy in Performing Arts!

Since Christmas we have been busy taking students to see some fantastic live theatre ranging from classical drama to loud, musical theatre.

We started in February by taking 50 students made up of Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 to London's West End to watch **Stomp**. All agreed that the performance lived up to expectations of being loud but surpassed them in content. The performers made fantastic drum beats through the use of random objects such as matches, bins, shopping trolleys, helmets and many more. Their timing was impeccable and the comedy relationships between the performers really made the show come alive. Our own Year 11 students produced a similar piece as 'Blazing Squad' in the Christmas show so it was brilliant to see the professionals bring it to life.

It was then the turn of our Year 13 students to see an adaptation of **Antigone** in London, Stratford, in February. As a party of 5, we took the train down to London and experienced the hustle and bustle of the tube! The performance itself was a contemporary adaptation of the Greek tragedy seeing the characters brought to life in an urban housing estate with Creon transformed into a gang lord. The students will have plenty to write about it their A2 final exam discussing the differences from the original conditions – good luck in the exam guys!



In collaboration with the English department, we then took 50 students to see **Woman in Black** in Milton Keynes. The Year 9 and 10 students were selected based on progress or effort made in both English and drama. Students thinking of selecting drama GCSE were also invited

as were students in Year 10 currently on the course. The play is performed by only two actors who brilliantly created the tense atmosphere suitable for the eerie storyline. I am sure there were one or two jumps in the audience at a couple of moments in the play! I hope our screams were not too loud!



Finally students in Year 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 were invited to see **Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night** performed in Northampton's Royal and Derngate. At £12 a ticket, this was a

bargain to see what I would describe as an outstanding performance that continued to surprise and entertain throughout. The performance has links with Frantic Assembly who base their theatre around physicality, and this performance saw a lot of that.

Lifts, flips, and interactions with the unbelievable set took the audience's breath away on more than one occasion. I know all who saw it thoroughly enjoyed it and I urge those who haven't seen it to find it and go immediately - you will not be disappointed!

As always Weston Favell Academy students were impeccably behaved on all of the trips: one audience member for Woman in Black even contacted Mrs Steele to congratulate the students on changing her opinion of children in the theatre! I really hope those that came to any of the performances enjoyed themselves and I urge those that didn't to be on the lookout for future trips.

Mrs E O'Brien, Head of Performing Arts

STOMP

DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION - GRENDON HALL



Since the start of the academic year, a group of students at Weston Favell Academy have been attending afterschool sessions to prepare for the expedition section of the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. The overall aim of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award is to encourage independence in young people outside the classroom. The award consists of activities in four sections; volunteering, physical, skills and expedition.

The expedition section encourages participants to learn to use maps and to become self-sufficient whilst exploring the great outdoors. Participants must plan and execute an expedition with others, and strong team skills are essential!

Our students embarked on their Bronze D of E practice expedition during the Easter break. This practice expedition allowed students to try out the skills they have been developing throughout the year. The

students spent the first weekend of the Easter

holiday on a planning weekend to prepare for the expedition, and during the first week of the holiday, the group left school early to head to Grendon Hall. Students were briefed by instructors at Grendon Hall and were then dropped off at Irchester Country Park. Carrying all of their equipment including tents, sleeping bags, clothes and cooking gear, the group worked together to navigate their way back to Grendon Hall using set only a map and compass. Another task saw the students on an overnight expedition where they needed to be 100% self sufficient, working in groups to cook, erect tents and generally support each other. All this after a full day of walking!

The instructors at Grendon Hall were really impressed how well each of the groups worked together to successfully complete their expedition and commented on how wonderful and mature their attitudes toward walking and the D of E experience were. The same group of students will be assessed on their skills in a final expedition in the first week of the Summer Holiday in July.

D of E participants: Connor Kincaid, Paige Loveland, Kira Alakija, George Harrington, Georgia Sampson, Eleanor Rayson, Harrison Reeves, Jasmine Brown.

Miss J Hodgkinson, D of E Co-ordinator



"It was an enjoyable but tough couple of days. I enjoyed walking in the countryside and having to use teamwork to get back to camp but carrying all our equipment was difficult. For the assessed expedition, I will definitely be taking less stuff with me to make it easier!" *George Harrington Year 10*

"It was the first time I had ever been camping and thought it was really fun. I enjoyed cooking my own food, using the Trangias and enjoyed being outside but I was really tired by the end of both of the days!" *Connor Kincaid Year 9*

"I found the expedition really tough but felt proud to have worked together to make it through the two days. The best bit was being with friends in the country and getting support from each other when it got difficult." *Paige Loveland Year 10*





On Saturday 14th February, the third WFA ski trip left for Andorra hoping for a week of good skiing. This year, 19 WFA students (two of whom had come last year) and two members of staff joined forces with 58 students from Moulton School.

We had a good journey through France and a slow journey up to the mountains in Andorra in weather that was overcast and threatening snow. After making very good time, an excited group arrived at the hotel early afternoon and were immediately kitted out with boots, skis, poles and helmets. We received a wonderful welcome from the owners who greeted us like long lost friends, and an extra surprise, to discover that we were the only two schools staying at the hotels so had total exclusivity! Rosa, the owner's mother, loves meeting the students and getting to know them and is a very cheerful person. After feasting on a good meal, it was off to bed for a good night's sleep ready for skiing the next morning as the snow fell outside.



Every morning was an early start with Mr May and I knocking on doors at 7am to ensure that our fledging skiers were all awake: the replies were weaker as the week went on! The first day was absolutely perfect for skiing; fresh snow, blue sky and sunshine. Our coach drivers, Nunu and Stuart, drove the short 15 minute drive up to the slopes to meet our ski instructors for the week, Roxanne, Pascal & Francesco. The beginner students were put through their paces learning to balance on their skis before taking to the beginners slope to practice. The intermediate skiers had a few practice runs on the green slopes before heading further up the mountain on the chair lifts. There were a few falls and collisions but generally there was positive enjoyment. We had fantastic weather all week, blue sky, sunshine and plenty of snow. In fact we were extremely lucky as the following week, it snowed heavily and the resort was closed!

SKI TRIP 2015 - ARCALIS, ANDORRA

Each day involved a total of five hours tuition, three hours in the morning and two in the afternoon. The morning's tuition was rewarded with a lovely meal on the mountain, just what was needed for an afternoon of skiing!

During our stay, we visited the town of Arinsal. Here the group enjoyed table football and snooker at the 'Surf Bar' following by a trip to the supermarket for supplies that were running short.

We were lucky enough to witness the Swatch Freerider tour in action on the Wednesday. This crazy event involves skiers and snowboarders launching themselves off the top of a mountain and free riding down the slope, performing acrobatic turns as they jumped off rocks. Absolute madness to us but a great spectacle to watch!

On Wednesday evening we went into the capital, Andorra la Vella, to indulge in some souvenir shopping that undoubtedly increased the local takings by a few euros! The students had the choice of eating in the capital or waiting until we got back to the hotel, most chose to forego the hotel food and ignore the lovely tapas bar in the capital and visit a well-known burger bar instead!



The week could not end without an awards evening. Students made nominations for the 'LOL' award, an opportunity to reward a fellow skier for a funny moment. We had a few deserving winners such as continually falling of the drag lift, wiping out fellow students in a fall and wiping out after a jump!



It was once again an extremely successful ski trip enjoyed by all who took part. The students were a pleasure to look after and an absolute credit to both their parents and the academy. It is a trip that both Mr May and I are certainly pleased and proud to be part of and we look forward to hopefully going again next year.

Mrs R Brewill





OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AT THE ACADEMY SHIELD 2015

Tuesday 28th April 2015 saw the nine Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust secondary academies competing at the fourth Academy Shield hosted at Weston Favell Academy.

Approximately 450 students across all of our academies descended on WFA and competed in the following competitions:

The Academic Challenge

Girls Netball

Girls Football

Girls Hockey

Boys Football

Boys Dodge Ball

The Academic Challenge is a 6 a-side team event with challenging rounds of questions ranging from general knowledge, heroes and villains, big bang theory, and picture round. The WFA team saw off the very strong opposition from all of the other academies to be outright winners for the second year in succession. A brilliant result and a sign of things to come for the rest of Weston Favell competitors!

Academic Challenge Team: Hannah Leal, Aniket Singh, Lily Wilkinson, Matt Edge, Nathaniel Kiloh-Munns, Ben Cookman

The netball, hockey and football saw the Weston Favell Girls only lose 1 match out of 26! An outstanding achievement: the girls' team doing even better than last year! All of the girls' teams showed an excellent level of commitment, teamwork, resilience and skill throughout the tournament. A true credit to WFA and excellent role models for any of the girls who wish to represent WFA at the Academy Shield next year!

Netball WINNERS: Jamie Leigh Walters, Sarah Hardcastle, Maya Loryman, Eve Gordon, Lily Jackson, Ellie Thorpe, Lucy Montgomery, Takara Fenton, Sophie Lane, Olivia Liburd, Emily Clark

Hockey WINNERS: Diana Anchidim, Emily Judge, Taylor Mountford, Niamh Cockerill, Charleigh Kunzmann, Jasmine Stead, Eve Gordon, Katie Munns, Casey Swain, Leah Sands



GIRLS NETBALL



GIRLS HOCKEY

Football WINNERS: Gracie-Mae Williams, Courtney Judkins, Jasmin Birk, Ellen McCarthy, Ellie Richings, Jo-Jo Sackie-Mensah, Mollie Marshall, Wiktoria Pilarczyk, Larissa Cimpulungeanu, Claudia Popa

The result of all this effort and success was that the girls' team from WFA won the overall girls Academy Shield for the third year, another OUTSTANDING achievement. WELL DONE the girls!

The boys' Academy Shield was to be a much closer competition...apart from the boys' dodge ball where the WFA boys won 7 out of 8 matches and crowned WINNERS of the dodge ball competition. Academy staff quoted as saying ... "The WFA dodge ball team were ruthless! What a display of skill, tactics and teamwork"

Boys dodge ball team: Bradley Powell, Moqam Noori, Adam Condon, Isaac Christie-Fidoe, Zach Frost, Alexander Kay, Ebrahim Mohammed, Solomon Taylor, Mitchell Crisp

The boys' football tournament saw a very high standard of skill, commitment and teamwork. The tournament ended with a tie for second place but overall winners were Nottingham Academy. A much deserved victory, well done Nottingham!

Boys football team: Danny Corbett, Bradley Lashley, Philip Proctor, Mayson Russell, Shaun Bragg, Jake Chambers, Luke Gowen, Dylan Noon, Noah Spence, Nathan Marks, Connor White

The overall boys Academy Shield was won by the City of Derby Academy, showing a good all-round performance in both the dodge ball and the football tournaments narrowly beating Nottingham to first position.

The amazing afternoon ended with presentations in the sports hall where winners and participants went home with medals, trophies and certificates.



GIRLS FOOTBALL



BOYS FOOTBALL





The Academy Shield saw fame for Mrs Steele and Ellie Richings (Year 9 football representative) who, during the afternoon, featured in a live interview with BBC Radio Northampton about the successes of the event at Weston Favell.

A special mention needs to be made for the WFA Sports Leaders from Years 10, 12 and 13. They all conducted themselves as true professionals, leading, officiating and helping out visiting staff and students throughout the very busy schedule of fixtures and presentations. WELL DONE!

YEAR 10 SPORTS LEADERS:

Yasmin Hinds, Daisey Jones, Josh Price, Nadiya Allom, Helen Bodily, Callum Bodsworth, Izaac Long, Aiyana Amess, Shannon Hawkins, Chioma Okoye

YEAR 12 SPORTS LEADERS:

George Wingrove, Micky Kirby, Connor Lee, Adam Steel, Sam De Boer, Chris Brown, Sophie Croy, Nikhil Greenwood



DODGEBALL



ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

What an amazing day of sport, competition and academic excellence. All of the students and staff had a great day. This is the fourth time Weston Favell Academy have hosted the Academy Shield and the competition every year gets harder and harder. Better get training for next year (especially the boys!) watch this space!



SPORTS LEADERS

DT 'A' LEVEL



AMIR NASEER



DAMON ROBERTS



DECLYN AMESS



CAMERON FREEMAN



SAMUEL CUMMINS



LEYLA SCARLETTA



SALEH SUBHAN



JAMES WARNER



JACK GROSS

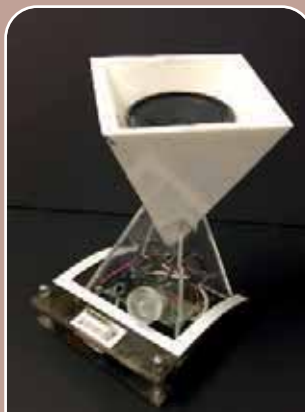
“Our students have raised the bar, yet again. The standard of work is amongst the best nationally with some work being produced to degree standards”

Mr Williams, Head of DT



TAHMID ALI

“I have greatly enjoyed A Level Product Design because it develops you as a person and unlocks the essential life skills like problem solving.”
Kelly-Anne Brennan - Year 12



LOUISE HOLLAND

“I discovered new skills, by receiving dedicated support and guidance. This has helped me create something I am very proud of.”
Declyn Amess - Year 12

“A Level Product Design has allowed me to be highly innovative and creative.”
Amir Naseer - Year 12



YEAR 11 SUCCESS

Year 11 Students Knuckle Down!

A huge 'well done' to the Year 11 students who have shown how motivated they are as they prepare for the final examinations. The cohort are using every spare moment to revise, and daily tutor times are now focussed revision sessions with students independently studying using a range of materials.

A new app available to students this year is GCSEPod. This is a fantastic tool that supports revision across a wide range of subjects. It contains over 3500 podcasts, each 3-5 minutes long, which share exam topics in a snappy way. It is highly visual and can be accessed via mobile phones, tablets or computers. Year 11 students have really engaged with this in their own time and over 11,000 podcasts have been accessed by our students as they prepare for their examinations.

"It makes revision easy and gives me confidence for the exams".
Fatima Scuotto

"I love it!" Megan Facer

"It has every topic I need and it's really useful" Ella Shakespeare

The top users of GCSEPod in each tutor group were recently entered in to a prize draw for a FREE prom ticket. The winning student was Charmaine Marufu. *Congratulations Charmaine!* Very best wishes to every student in Year 11 – let's hope all your hard work earns you fantastic outcomes!



STEPS TO SUCCESS

On the 11th February, the Weston Favell Academy held a tremendous 'Steps to Success' event for all Year 11 students and their parents.



The evening consisted of a variety of stalls all aimed at student achievement, revision techniques and various take home material to aid revision.

In addition, there was the launch of GCSEPod, the online platform to aid student's revision into small and easily accessible pod casts. Year 11 have been offered

a diverse range of revision techniques including two 'EXAM BUSTERS' sessions by Positively Mad, delivering a fast-paced, high-energy, highly interactive workshop designed to improve memory skills, increase self-confidence, understand the importance of reflective practices and regular review, and to prepare for exams.

Revision advice was available from Heads of Department, the Director of Achievement, Learning Mentors, the Head and Deputy Head of Year as well as the Senior Leadership Team. Parents were able to have personalised discussions about revision needs and how they can best support their child during the exam season.

All students that attended the evening had the chance to be entered in to a raffle for a free prom ticket and were all eligible for either a free revision guide or USB memory device. With over 60% attendance from the year group and positive feedback from both students and parents, the evening was a huge success.

We wish the students in Year 11 every success in their examinations.

"I found the event extremely useful, well organised and feel it has motivated my son to put in the final push!"

"It really helped"

"Lots of useful information given"



Divine Intervention at WFA!

Throughout the year the intervention team, led by the Director of Achievement, Mrs Russell-Jones, has grown from strength to strength with its team of Learning Mentors: Mr M Aziz, Mrs D Conroy, Mrs H Heng, Mrs G Johnson, Mrs S Wisdom and Mr A Pink. Each Learning Mentor provides invaluable specialist support in Year 10 and 11 classes, lunchtime study club, after school revision time as well as one-to-one mentoring support for students. This is in addition to the tireless work done by teachers throughout the year. The independent learning base has proved to be a popular area for staff and students, providing a base before examinations, a centre point for additional resources and general examination questions – a one-stop-shop for learning! Miss Algar (Head of English), Miss Therese (Head of Maths), Miss Shellard (Head of Science) and Mrs Correa-Humphries (Head of Humanities) have each added their support through small group work in intervention. Weston Favell Academy intervention is everywhere, supporting everyone to achieve their absolute best!

During the year, key events raised the profile of the hard work students and staff put in daily. With mock examinations in terms 2 and 3, Year 11 students worked late into the evening finalising their revision plans. Term 3 saw an overwhelming attendance from parents to our Steps to Success evening. The school was full of parents and students alike wanting to know how parents can support their children. New this year, we developed comprehensive revision guides online, USB sticks as well as providing free paper guides to students attending the Steps to Success evening. GCSEPod has proved very popular with students, allowing them to use the educational app at home, on their phone or in school. Our annual Easter revision fortnight saw over 600 school sessions attended as staff across the school focussed on preparing for the summer examination series. Weekly additional assemblies saw Year 11 being prepared for their future choices, specific subject preparation to complete their GCSEs, as well as preparing them for the rigorous mock examination series.

Breakfast club continues throughout the exam period with students arriving from 7.30am to be greeted by the intervention team and their teachers for any last minute tips, a cup of tea, toast and a bottle of water to go! Whether in the main refectory or in the independent study area, Year 11 students have completely embraced the early morning starts as they complete their GCSEs. As the year closes for Year 11 and the prom is in sight, so our attentions turn to Year 9 and 10. After watching the fantastic efforts of the Year 11 students, we wish them all the best in each and every examination. For the intervention team, the work begins again with new students and new challenges that we are confident will be achieved through hard work and sheer determination.



*You are Stronger than you seem,
Braver than you believe, and
Smarter than you think you are.*



Team of Learning Mentors

*The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you will go.*



Mrs Russell-Jones
Director of Achievement



SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO ...



ANONYMOUS

..... one of our Year 11 students who gave up her Christmas day to help serve Christmas dinner at a homeless shelter. This student wishes to remain anonymous but the academy would like to thank her for showing such amazing community spirit in volunteering her time on such an important family day of the year.

Well done!



..... James Warner, one of our Sixth Form students. You may recall from our last newsletter that James visited various parts of America indulging in his love of history. This passion for history has seen James being offered one of the few 'unconditional offers' from Queen Mary University of London for showing 'outstanding potential as a historian'.

*Well done, James,
WFA is very proud of you and this fantastic achievement!*



JAMES WARNER



CIARA STOTT

..... Ciara Stott who helped at a social event for the elderly organised by MHA Live at Home scheme in Northampton. Assisting at a performance by the St Albans Charity Players, Ciara helped MHA members to their seats and served refreshments during the interval.

Well done, Ciara!



MISS JONES

..... Miss Jones, Teaching Assistant, for successfully completing a Diploma in Autism Awareness with Online Academies.

Despite working full time with the academy, Miss Jones has achieved this qualification in her own time and her role will now add to our portfolio of interventions available to students.

Congratulations, Miss Jones.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION TO ...



GREAT RUN MEDAL

..... Mrs Russell-Jones, Director of Achievement, who completed a 10k run in Manchester in May. With an impressive time of just 68 minutes, Mrs Russell-Jones raised the amazing sum of £1,625 in aid of 'Kidneys for Life'.

Congratulations, Mrs Russell-Jones, on this outstanding personal achievement!



MRS RUSSELL-JONES



MATTHEW MASTERS

..... Matthew Masters, Year 12 student, who organised a group of friends, largely from WFA, to participate in a 10k obstacle course. This challenging event took place in January at Donnington Park in aid of 'Leukaemia and Lymphoma Research' and raised the fantastic sum of £3,371. Well done to Matthew and his friends on this amazing achievement, and thank you to all the students and staff who contributed.

..... Mrs Wakefield, Exams Manager, who has been complimented on the high standard and quality of her work by the Joint Council for Qualifications in administering examinations at the Weston Favell Academy. The invaluable work and support provided by Mrs Wakefield is greatly appreciated by both staff and students not only during exam season but in the preparations she makes all year round.

Thank you, Mrs Wakefield.



MRS WAKEFIELD





The Millionaires' Club

This is a club which provides exclusive membership for students who have read a million words or more in the Accelerated Reader scheme.

The more students read, the more they are entitled to read, so our student millionaires are given "life-time" extended book loan limits.

Our millionaires are also invited to exclusive reward events, such as parties, author visits and a trip to the Harry Potter experience at the Warner Studios last year. Watch this space for the scoop on what our most voracious readers will be doing this year!

Your LRC Needs You...



...to return your books!

Calling all students! Please dig deep and have a look in your school bags, under your beds and in your classrooms for any library books you may have borrowed and forgotten to return.

This term we are running a book amnesty: this is your chance to return any overdue or lost books without being fined! Just call into the LRC to hand in any missing items.

LRC NEWS!!!!

Big Book Quiz

30th June 2015

Following on from last year's success at this event hosted at Sir Christopher Hatton Academy Wellingborough, we will be taking up the challenge to reign supreme and hopefully win this challenge for a second year!

LRC staff have been working with two groups of students from Years 7, 8 and 9 encouraging them to read the huge reading list, and glean as much information as possible in order to win the Big Book Quiz. This is a fantastic opportunity for our avid readers to showcase their knowledge on a variety of popular children's books.

Watch this space to see how they perform

Test your knowledge!

Each week the LRC hosts a quiz for teams of up to 4 students. Last term students enjoyed battling against each other in genres including Marvel vs DC, Around the World and Gaming to name but a few.

This term students will be challenging each other in the following categories:

THEME	THU Y9 - 11	FRI Y7 - 8
Disney & Pixar	04 June	05 June
Logos	11 June	12 June
Animals	18 June	19 June
Pop Culture	25 June	26 June
Cartoons	02 July	03 July
Bingo & Buffet	09 July	10 July

CARNEGIE MEDAL 2015



Every Wednesday from 3.20–4.30 pm, the Book Club meets in the LRC to share a common love of reading and books. For the past term, we have been working our way through the shortlist for the Carnegie Medal, awarded annually for outstanding children's literature.

So far, 'Apple and Rain', and 'Tinder' have been our favourites but we still have several titles to finish. Our group webpage will reveal what we think of the books as we go along:

<http://bit.ly/BookieMonsters>

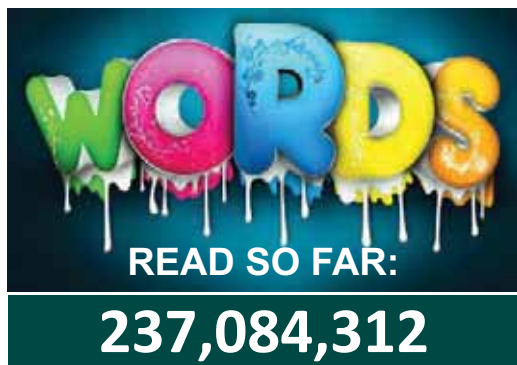




Accelerated Reader™ NEWS

All students in KS3 at the academy participate in a reading scheme called Accelerated Reader, which measures readers' understanding of text using a little computer-based quiz. The quizzes are taken by students when they complete their books allowing us to guide them towards greater success and more challenging books. Students and parents can check the current Accelerated Reader targets and see how much progress they have made towards them using "Home Connect" (there is a link from the Pupils page on the Academy website).

Every Accelerated Reader book has a Word Count, so when students pass their quizzes the total number of words read and understood are counted up for each student and for the school as a whole. Our target this year is to beat our previous record of 300,000,000 words!



This year's ambitious target is 145,000,000 so we have a long way to go.

Again this year, 2 £5 vouchers will be awarded per term to the students who have made the most progress or tried the hardest to reach their targets. These are not based on ability but on effort so anyone can win. It is not too late to be in with a chance of winning a prize this term. KEEP QUIZZING!

Getting to Know You ... Hey good looking,



**NEW
LRC
MANAGER
TRACEY
FROHAWK**

What do you mean you haven't met Mrs Frohawk yet? Apart from entrusting her 'Getting to Know You' article to an uber-talented, ravishingly handsome and currently on the market, Sixth Form student (who likes reading and going to gigs you know where to find me...), Weston Favell's newest librarian is hard at work implementing her fresh, positive decisions for the academy's LRC.

With eleven years' experience under her belt, Mrs Frohawk definitely has the qualifications for the job with an NVQ Level 3 in Information and Library services, membership of the library institute CILIP, winner of Best School Library in Northamptonshire 2011-12 and plenty more besides.

But let's face it who actually cares about any of that? You came here for all the tabloid stuff, right? The gossip, the inside scoop ... like the fact that her preferred superpower is invisibility or that if she could be any smell it would be clean laundry. What's more, as seen in the academy's new Chess Club, she has a love for playing board games (badly) but if Connect 4 isn't your cup of tea, you could always just pop in and ask her to wiggle her ears for you (please, EVERYONE do this!).

Favourite books include Skellig, Wonder, Atonement, Hairy Maclary and the essential My Sister Lives on the Mantelpiece. Music-wise, she's into Florence and the Machine; Swedish House Mafia and Ray Lamontagne, but if Films and TV are more your thing she recommends City of Angels; Atonement (again); Platoon; Top Gun; Greys' Anatomy and Breaking Bad.

No stranger to physical exertion, Mrs Frohawk has already completed a 5km Gauntlet Race and 10km Wolf Run (so don't mess with her!) Next on the cards it's the 16km hard core encore military-style obstacle course Tough Mudder which clearly implies some form of mild insanity (sorry, obviously I mean extreme dedication!)

By Ben Edge, Year 13





Co-financed by



Skills Funding Agency



“This course has given me a real good understanding and helped me develop as a person.”

Aimhigher, a not for profit social enterprise, has been working with Sixth Form students at the Weston Favell Academy for several years, supporting them to the next stage of their career whether continuing in education or beginning work with training, ideally an apprenticeship. Aimhigher’s provision offers young people opportunities to develop further their

motivation, aspiration, direction and those essential skills for progression. This may involve exploration of wider career

openings associated with their interests and achievements but also employment opportunities created through the growth of the apprenticeship offer.

As the current programme comes to its conclusion, students commented recently on the value the course has been.

“Throughout Aimhigher I have learned so many valuable things that I know will be useful when it comes to real life situations such as interviews and developing my CV.”

The success of the programme is enhanced greatly by the co-operation and commitment of academy staff who encourage student participation, often in addition to their studies, as they see the support Aimhigher offers as a complimentary component to their decision-making process and progression.

“Aimhigher has really helped me a lot. They got me more prepared for my future which has had a massive impact.”

Aimhigher has noticed a huge change in students and their direction for the future: one student will be beginning an apprenticeship in child care shortly with off the job training at the local further education college. We wish her well for the future.

Aimhigher sourced funding for this provision through Hertford Regional College (HRC) the European Social Fund (ESF) and the Skills Funding Agency (SFA), and funding permitted, Aimhigher will be delighted to continue supporting students and their progression at the Weston Favell Academy.



Father Christmas drops in at WFA!

Although many months ago now, we were delighted to once again host the annual Rotary Club of the Nene Valley OAP Christmas Party at WFA. With over 70 people attending another successful event on Sunday 7th December, our Sixth Form students indulged our guests with entertainment and refreshments.



The entertainment was provided by the school choir conducted by Harrison Cook and Qhalib Mohamoud, who is a former WFA student, and returns every year to sing old time favourites. Great fun was had by all, old and young, staff and rotary club members, singing carols and playing bingo. Raffle prizes were given out by the students as well as two special gifts for the oldest gentleman and the oldest lady.

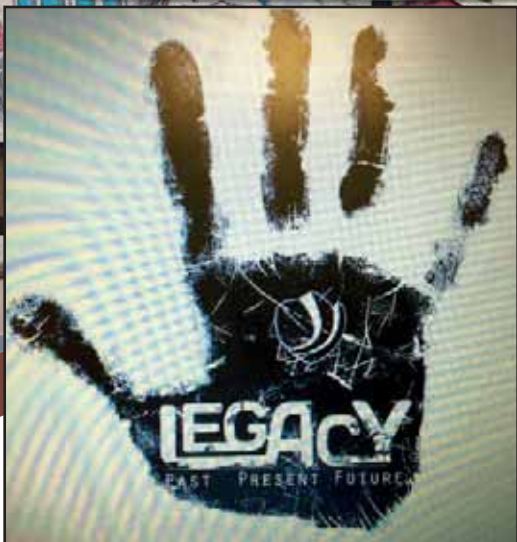
Every guest was presented with a food hamper by Father Christmas donated by parents and students across the academy. Special thanks go to Poppy Peck and Alicja Zdanowicz both Year 13 students who organised the event.

Thank also goes to Greencore Northampton and Greggs for donating the refreshments.

It will soon be time to plan for this year's party!

Mrs Whelan - Sixth Form Student Manager





Our students have spent the last nine months exploring cultural heritage and tradition through cross-curricular learning. Through the Legacy Project, we will build on this by considering how the past can shape our current and future beliefs and values.

The Legacy Experience will take place on the 9th of July. This event will be the finale of the Legacy Project, a celebration of all our students' work and an opportunity to showcase our efforts to deliver a "world class" curriculum.

In the Legacy Experience we will travel through time considering past, present and future.

Art students have been inspired by the reign of the Egyptian pharaohs of 1300 BC to recreate 3D products and set pieces which give a valuable insight into the traditions and values of this fascinating era.

Travel forward to 14th July 1789 and the period of the French Revolution. Students in history have been studying the social and political upheaval caused, whilst our performing art students will showcase scenes from "Les Miserables" by French poet and novelist Victor Hugo, providing a glimpse of life during this time of unrest.



We then go back to the present when our students will share what heritage means to them, the traditions that they value and how they have shaped their opinions and lives to date. Students will share their thoughts on "how their past has made them who they are today". A selection of students' comments will then be sealed in a time capsule to be buried on the academy site and opened in 10 years' time.

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

*Philosopher
George Santayana*



Finally we will fast forward to 3000 AD with an action packed insight into our students' vision of the future. Students have been working hard in many subject areas across the academy with art students exploring steam-punk, both art and DT students working on the creation of imaginative robots, and the DT Club working overtime in the production of 'out of this world' vehicles and devices.

*Mr P Williams
Head of DT*

The finale of the Legacy Experience will allow visitors to explore the cosmos by entering a specialised dome to create a unique and awe inspiring experience.

Legacy Leaders

Students are already being cast to participate in the Legacy Experience. Here are some of our Legacy Leaders:



Thomas - Year 10

Thomas enjoys musicals and he will be using his musical talents on the piano accordion which he has been playing for two years. Thomas has been cast as Gavroche who lived on the streets of Paris and joined the rebellion at the barricade in the June of 1832.

“I think the Legacy Project is a great idea with a great goal. I feel really honoured to be part of something like this.”

Eleanor - Year 10

Eleanor has always had a passion for acting: she has more recently been taking a keen interest in musical theatre. Eleanor has been casted as Fantine, a single mother, who experienced great sorrow and poverty in post-revolutionary

France. “Les Miserables is one of my favourite musicals due to its strong message which is still relevant today.... by remembering the past, we can build a new future. I am very excited to be part of the Legacy Project and to be playing the part of Fantine.”



A LEVEL STUDENTS BACK TO COURT!

Once again during April, it was time for our A Level students to return to court for what has now become an annual trip. A group of Year 12 and 13 law students spent a day at Northampton Crown court as part of their study of the judicial system.



As Northampton is a second tier court and hears indictable offences on the Crown side as well as civil cases on the County side, this trip is a useful and a valuable opportunity for students to see an insight into the daily workings of the criminal justice system in action, and also the more serious crimes such as murder, manslaughter, rape and robbery. At the Crown Court, a judge sits with a jury of 12 people chosen at random from the local population. Being tried by one's peers is viewed as an important guarantee of a fair trial and it is the jury which decides guilt or innocence based on the facts or evidence presented to it. The judge is the master of the law which means that he or she must explain the law to the jury. Students observed a summary, where the judge directed a jury to reach a verdict, as well as the start of a trial where prosecution charges were presented to the jury 'sworn in'.

Students reflected afterwards on the evidence presented, some of which was not entirely clear cut. They were struck by the lengthy time period involved in bringing and preparing cases for court. Overall, sitting in on trials was a fascinating and an intriguing experience and the students were keen to return to learn if the jury's verdict matched their own understanding of the evidence. The group were able to look around the Crown Court at Northampton and familiarise themselves with the setting and operation of the court, and also the room where the jury retires to reach its decision after listening to the evidence and facts.

A particular highlight of the court visit was to experience advocacy first-hand and to gain a sense of what it is like to speak in court. At the end of the visits, students got a chance to work in groups on a (fictional) moot, which is an oral presentation of a legal argument against an opponent in the presence of a judge. Students were given a set of facts and had to research and prepare an argument on behalf of their (fictional) clients. Through the exercise, students practised their speech-writing and advocacy skills, and participated in a mock trial in which all played different roles such as the judge, prosecution, defence barristers and jury.

Feedback from the group was that their visit was extremely interesting and eye-opening, and has greatly deepened their knowledge and widened their horizons. This experience enabled students to acquire practical knowledge about the English legal system which would significantly assist in their studies. The visit to the court was particularly informative and interesting for the students while allowing them to see and hear the law being explained and applied.

Law is a popular A level subject at Weston Favell Academy and the course is excellent preparation for those students aspiring to go onto study Law, Criminology and Criminal Justice Studies at degree level or for those wishing to join the Police Force, Civil Service or Human Resources.



A LEVEL STUDENTS BACK TO COURT!

'I felt that I was able to enhance my knowledge and have a greater insight into the world of law. I was able to watch the process and methods used such as bail and sentencing. Having a virtual view of the courts guided me to my exam as I was able to foresee the image of the courts in my head.' *Mahib, Year 12*

'I feel that the trip to the Crown Court was very helpful as it gave me a real insight into a career in law if I choose to go down that route. It also helped me hugely in my exam as our main units were observed closely in court.' *Nahid, Year 12*

'The trip has given me an opportunity to witness how courts operate. It was a great experience and it certainly helped in the preparation for my law exams.' *Alicja, Year 12*

'I was excited to see live trials and to find out how a career in law works in the courtroom. The trip also gave me extra knowledge for my exam.' *Sophie, Year 12*

'The court trip was a great experience as we got a real insight into how the court functions with real life cases, and also how barristers and solicitors prepare their defendants to stand before a judge. Personally, this experience was beneficial for me as I am planning to take a law degree at university.' *Dayle, Year 12*

'The court trip has given me a much greater insight and first-hand experience of the legal profession. It also helped me in my exam preparation.' *Predrag, Year 12*

Mrs Edwards - Teacher of A Level Law

YEAR 11 STUDENTS SUPPORT 'MENINGITIS NOW'

**Meningitis
now**

Year 11 students support 'Meningitis Now'

A charity day was organised by a group of Year 11 students on Friday 1st May in support of Meningitis Now. This event was held in memory of Simon Kelly, a close relative of one of our Year 11 students, Lauren Kelly.

With a 'half' non-uniform day and a variety of cakes on sale, a staggering total of **£897.26** was raised by Lauren Kelly, Lydia Smith, Hayley Pagano, Kirsty Edge and Rebecca Easton. The girls would like to express their thanks to all the students and staff for their tremendous support.



Become a **HEALTHY HERO** and **WIN PRIZES**



The more healthy food you buy
the more points you collect.
Whoever has the most points
at the end of each term is the
Healthy Hero and wins a prize!



‘Coming in September 2015 ... watch out for more details’





The scene was set at the Old Scouts Rugby Football Club on Tuesday 21st April for another exciting Three Counties Rugby Tournament.

Teams from St John Fisher, Montsaye, Malcolm Arnold, Weavers, Christopher Hatton, Corby Business Academy, Lodge Park and, of course, Weston Favell were ready for a tough competition.

WFA enjoyed success in their first game against Malcolm Arnold winning 10-5. Our second match against Christopher Hatton was more of a challenge outplaying us 15-5. Our next game, however, was a different story. WFA crashed through Corby Business Academy's defence to secure an amazing result of 30-0! As WFA finished first in their pool matches and Christopher Hatton only drew, our team progressed to the first place play off final against Montsaye who were triumphant against WFA winning 10-5.

Well done to all the squad for a sterling performance:

**Tommy Sumner, Kai Davies, Harry Collins, Ollie Edwards, Reeve Childs,
Zak Magid, Jerome Graham, Harry Berrystone, Alec Alcock,
Thierry Crooks, Chukwuebuka Onwumechili, Joshua Taylor**

Mr M Phipp - Head of PE



SHOW MY HOMEWORK SUCCESS



This academic year has seen the exciting launch of Show My Homework at Weston Favell and we are delighted with the results! More students than ever before are completing their independent study, as the Show My Homework programme ensures that the communication from teachers can be seen by the student and their families.

Show My Homework is an online personalised homework calendar which is connected to an individual student's timetable. As the programme can be checked from a phone, computer, tablet, laptop and many other devices, it is so easy to access and allows students and families to be clear about the work that is to be completed. Teachers have the opportunity to attach any helpful resources and this means that students have always got clear and full instructions.

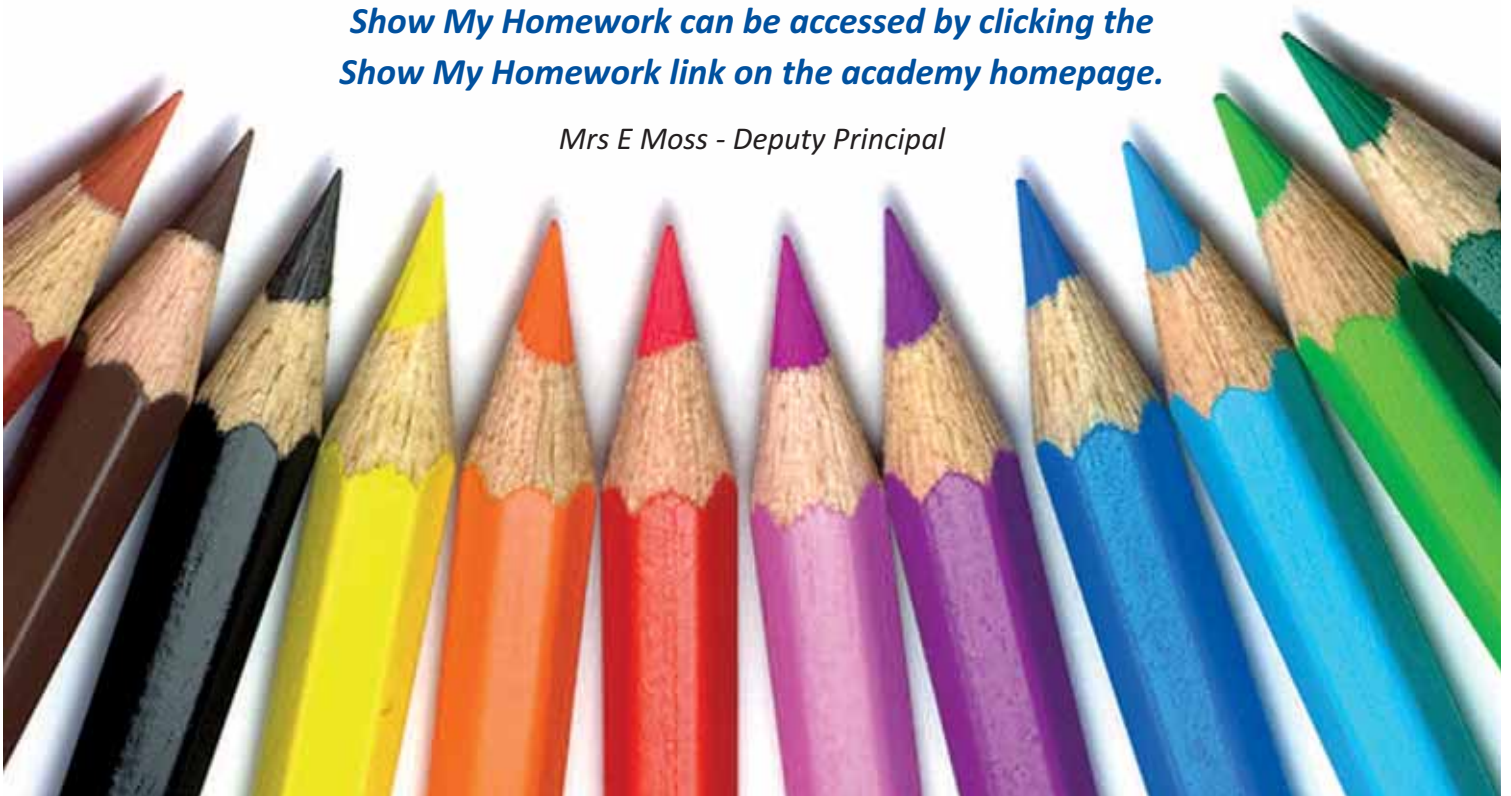
Although the absolute majority of students are completing their homework on time, there are still some students who are not making the most of these independent learning opportunities. If a student fails to hand in a piece of homework on the specified date, they will be issued with a C2 planner comment; an accumulation of comments can add up to a detention or even an isolation! All students should aim to complete all of the homework set by their teacher.

If you are having any user problems at all, please do not hesitate to email the Show My Homework team at help@showmyhomework.co.uk who will be able to assist you further. The response time from the support team has been excellent and our monitoring is showing us that the majority of queries are responded to within five hours! There are also several YouTube videos available on the Show My Homework YouTube channel: these videos are short, helpful user guides which can help you to use the programme more confidently. Type 'Show My Homework' into the YouTube search bar and you will see a wide range of short films designed to support families and students.

We would like to thank all students and their families for the very positive attitudes that have been shown towards homework since the new system has launched and we look forward to seeing the impact that this will have on student engagement and achievement.

Show My Homework can be accessed by clicking the Show My Homework link on the academy homepage.

Mrs E Moss - Deputy Principal





Congratulations to

..... our girls' rugby team who competed in a tournament in March and came an impressive third out of six schools. Well done to:

Maya Loryman, Ellen McCarthy, Jasmin Birk, Ellie Richings, Diana Anchidim, Charleigh Kunzmann, Rogue Pidgley, Aaliyah Rogers, Ruth Thiaba, Jamie Walters, Ciara Stott, Kelis Holden, Gracie-Mae Williams, Shania Green, Courtney Mashzhike

IN MY SPARE TIME!



My name is Hannah Chappell and I am currently a student in Year 11 at Weston Favell.

I have been racing go karts now for 8 years after my father started my addiction for the sport by buying me a Honda 50cc Cadet which then evolved to a WTP two stroke 60cc cadet on a zip blade chassis. Once off my novice plates, I raced a Comer 60cc Cadet from the age of 9 to 13. Following my move up to the higher class after my 14th birthday, I am now racing a 100cc go-kart with a top speed of 74mph! I will continue in this class until the end of 2015 and will be competing in the Sherington Kart Circuits Championship. For 2016, my plans are to race a Formula 2 stock car which is a lot faster!

After that, who knows





The DHL 'Look into Logistics' students in Year 10 completed the residential element of the programme from 11th-15th May in Aberdovey, Wales.

During the week, the students were tasked in various outdoor activities that pushed them beyond their comfort zone in many ways.

The group of 24 students were joined by staff from DHL during the week-long trip at the Outward Bound Centre. The group were thrown in at the deep end (literally!) with the first activity being a jog to the beach followed by submerging themselves under water in a bid to start as they mean to go on with taking on new activities and challenges. All of the students faced this with a superb show of confidence and a positive group mentality.

After a 16 mile hike over rough terrain and spending Tuesday night camped on the top of a mountain, the group were all glad to be back on level ground!



All of the group have a story to tell and it is amazing to see them growing in front of your eyes. The camaraderie and teamwork shown is inspiring, so much so that the DHL mentors have stated they would give a number of individuals apprenticeships tomorrow if they could, such is the potential they have seen in them in this trip.

On Thursday, the groups were set a business related challenge tasked with initially solving some orienteering clues in sub-groups. Every correct answer provided a sum of cash which was then used to purchase equipment to build a fully functional raft that could be successfully launched and hold 14 people without sinking! Both groups took to this task with determination and demonstrated their ability to apply excellent teamwork that they have developed over the week. Roles were allocated and each member went to work in contributing towards a plan of action, a raft design and getting the equipment onto the beach.

When building the rafts, both teams decided on similar designs but putting ideas into reality was particularly challenging in high winds and driving rain! The perseverance and determination ensured that all team members contributed and when it came to launching the rafts, there was a clear winning team as they launched and navigated their raft in tricky conditions, and without sinking! The other team took slightly longer, and after initially losing 3 team members into the water, they were able to also successfully launch!



The positivity from both groups on achieving their goal was fantastic to see, and after all of the efforts to stay afloat, all celebrated their achievements by jumping into the sea! As a final task, this was a fantastic way to see all of the students endeavours during the week come together so well. Witnessing the satisfaction the group got upon succeeding was priceless.

Miss S Bointon
Assistant
Principal

Having the DHL mentors join us during this trip has been excellent, and has given the students a real flavour of the business side of team work and the vital role that it plays in any successful working environment. The feedback from the mentors has been fantastic, with some students even being told that there would definitely be offered work

opportunities if they were slightly older! This in itself is a great confidence boost for the youngsters and adds to the whole experience.

All of the students have been a credit to Weston Favell during the week. They have learnt so much about themselves on the journey with DHL and Outward Bound, and there is still so much more to come for them as the programme continues....

'It was a very enjoyable week and a lot of the things will help me in the future.' **Jessica Evans**

'I now have a lot more experience and confidence to get a job in the future. I would definitely do it again!'
Amy-Jo Jarvis

'So fun and enjoyable: I can't wait to use the skills they taught me in the future.' **Chioma Okoye**

'It was hard but really educational. We would definitely recommend it to other people.'
Harry Poppert and Liam Berry

'It was amazing. I learnt so much about myself I never realised before.' **Daisey Jones**



TERM DATES 2015/2016

	Aug-15					Sep-15					Oct-15						
M		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28			5	12	19	26
T		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27
W		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28
T		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24			1	8	15	22	29
F		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25			2	9	16	23	30
S	1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26			3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25	

	Nov-15					Dec-15					Jan-16						
M		2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28			4	11	18	25
T		3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26
W		4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27
T		5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28
F		6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25			1	8	15	22	29
S		7	14	21	28		5	12	19	26			2	9	16	23	30
S	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27			3	10	17	24	31

	Feb-16					Mar-16						
M		1	8	15	22	29			7	14	21	28
T		2	9	16	23			1	8	15	22	29
W		3	10	17	24			2	9	16	23	30
T		4	11	18	25			3	10	17	24	31
F		5	12	19	26			4	11	18	25	
S		6	13	20	27			5	12	19	26	
S		7	14	21	28			6	13	20	27	

	Apr-16						May-16					
		4	11	18	25	M		2	9	16	23	30
		5	12	19	26	T		3	10	17	24	31
		6	13	20	27	W		4	11	18	25	
		7	14	21	28	T		5	12	19	26	
	1	8	15	22	29	F		6	13	20	27	
	2	9	16	23	30	S		7	14	21	28	
	3	10	17	24		S	1	8	15	22	29	

	Jun-16					Jul-16						
		6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25	
		7	14	21	28			5	12	19	26	
	1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27	
	2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28	
	3	10	17	24				1	8	15	22	29
	4	11	18	25				2	9	16	23	30
	5	12	19	26				3	10	17	24	31

- School holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Year 7, 11 and 13 start
- Staff Training Days
- Year 8, 9 10 and 12 start


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