



## LEGACY GOES LARGE!

“How can we top War Horse?”

Mrs Steele (July 2014)

After the success of War Horse, the Creative Curriculum group considered how the next project could offer an even better experience for learners. Months of planning would follow as we wanted the universe to be a bigger and more ambitious one. We also wanted to expand the range of subjects so that the whole academy got behind our ambition to deliver a ‘World Class Curriculum’.

“How can we learn from the past to shape the future” was our underlining philosophical message. Art, History, Performing Arts and English were the first departments to immediately sign up; this was then extended to Science, KS4 and KS5 students.

### Creative Learning

Students spent the previous nine months exploring cultural heritage and tradition through cross-curricular learning. Through the Legacy Project, we built on this by considering how the past can shape our current and future beliefs and values. Our students got to share what heritage means to them, the traditions that they value and how they have shaped their opinions and lives to date. Students also shared their thoughts on “How their past has made them who they are today”.

### Creative Outcomes

On the morning of the 9th July, the atrium started to transform into the time travelling world of Legacy.

### Community Outreach

Over 150 pupils from Bridgewater Primary, Headlands Primary and Cedar Road Primary School attended the morning rehearsals of our Legacy Experience, in addition to travelling inside the 360 degree planetarium. As a memento of the day, all students received a Legacy Experience Certificate. Throughout the day, over 300 academy students got to experience the planetarium with over 200 visitors during the evening.

“The planetarium was fantastic... I really thought I was travelling through space.”  
Mr Botterill

The opening act came from the academy’s rising star Leo Robinson. Leo, a Sixth Form student, composed, wrote the lyrics and performed the song ‘Legacy’ which was a massive hit with the crowds. Leo’s official video can be viewed at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_V8RsOcJm3c](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_V8RsOcJm3c) This track can also be purchased from itunes under his new Album ‘Better than Yours’.



# LEGACY GOES LARGE!



Art and DT students were inspired by the reign of the Egyptian pharaohs of 1300 BC so they produced 3D products and set pieces from this fascinating era. Visitors could then travel forward to the 14th July 1789 and to the period of the French

Revolution, into the world of French novelist Victor Hugo. Art students got to design and decorate the detailed backdrop scenes; students in History studied the social and political upheaval through the eyes of the people living at the time, by our GCSE Performing Arts students. These students created their own physical theatre piece, inspired by the musical production of Les Misérables.

Visitors got to step into 'Science' with the bigger on the inside Tardis. Mr Leighton kindly became 'The Doctor' for the day with Mrs Clifford as his trusted sidekick 'Rose'. With a team of students becoming STEM Ambassadors, visitors got to explore the impact climate change is having on our precious planet and how changes now could help future generations.

A shock was in store for visitors when they came face to face with our very own Dalek and they were then whisked into the future to experience our students' colourful and inspiring vision of the future. This included an alien spacecraft set in a futuristic world inspired by the author H G Wells. Students spent over nine months creating amazing sets, costumes and props. Rehearsals started months ahead of the live performances which included a joint performance with Bridgewater Primary and the Academy Choir, and our Legacy Leaders performed 'Do you hear the people sing?' and 'The Circle of Life'.

Eleanor Morrison raised the bar to a new height with her French Revolution scenes. Throughout the French Revolution set, the audience appeared to become very emotional during both the English and French version of "I Dreamed a Dream".

"Eleanor did an absolutely spectacular job and performed with such passion and elegance."  
**Mr Leaver (Form Tutor to Eleanor Morrison)**





# LEGACY GOES LARGE!



"The Legacy Project was an opportunity to expand our learning, to develop our passions and interests while discovering new ones. It is important to remember the past which is the message of Legacy. The project pulled the whole academy together which everyone agreed was an amazing opportunity. I am so glad to be part of something that was massive and special."

**Eleanor Morrison (Legacy Leader)**

## The Future Zone

In the Future Zone, students performed a contemporary dance troupe as robots; this combined neon lighting and a highly energetic dance routine.

Students from the Art Department designed and made part of the futuristic zone. Their brief was to create a different world with strange new plants. These props were coated in special dyes that lit up with ultra violet lights. Visitors also got an opportunity to fly remote controls space crafts which lit up with beams of spinning lights.

The finale allowed visitors to experience space travel in a 360 degree planetarium dome. GCSE Catering students delighted visitors with their culinary skills and produced sci-fi themed cakes and buns. The

History department had also organised Legacy Leaders to guide visitors through Ancestry.co.uk in a bid to find their family's past. Staff also dressed for the event by wearing costumes that were inspired by the Legacy Project. Well done to Darth Hopkins who won the prize for best costume!

Due to the success of both the War Horse and the Legacy Project, Mr Williams was invited to lead a Workshop at the SSAT (the Schools, Students and Teachers network) National Conference 2015. His workshop was to showcase our creative curriculum projects, and discuss with delegates how they can develop their own creative curriculum.

"The Legacy Project resulted in subjects being woven together to raise the bar in terms of levels, quality of work and enhancing our students learning outcomes. Our Legacy Leaders raised the bar with their outstanding interpretation of Les Miserables and their amazing robotic performance."

**Mr Williams speaking at the SSAT National Conference 2015**



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# LEGACY GOES LARGE!

"The legacy project this year has significantly, if not overwhelmingly, contributed to increased student enthusiasm and engagement in lessons. The impact of this has been a large increase in students meeting or working beyond their target grades in Art."

**Miss Rowlands (Head of Art)**

## Quotes on the event

"A tremendous and wondrous event showcasing the creativity, imagination and talent of our students. I was proud to invite my friends to share in this event and they, like I, was stunned by the brilliance we saw."

**Mrs G Marks (Deputy Principal)**

"Fantastic!! This kind of exhibition has brought departments together and showcases the excellence of our students and our staff." **Mrs Z Correa-Humphries (Head of Humanities)**

"It was an amazing spectacle and very obvious how much time, effort and enthusiasm both staff and students had invested into the project. It made me feel proud to be a part of it." **Mrs R Brewill (Administration Manager)**

"I felt blown away because of the high effort from our students." **Chioma Okoye (Year 11)**

"Outstanding and amazing." **Holly Cato (Year 10)**

"The Legacy Club provided extra-curricular opportunities for our students. These provide them with a range of new skills and experiences which goes beyond the National Curriculum." **Mr Tymon (D&T Legacy Clubs)**

"The Legacy Project allowed us to consider the past when designing our futuristic product. It brought subjects together in a creative and forward thinking way, one that we had never experienced before."

**Kelly-Anne Brennan (Year 13 Product Design Student)**

The success of the Legacy Exhibition in July resulted in it being the opening act for both the Key Stage 3 and 4 Awards Evenings in September. This was again an amazing experience for both staff and students.

A special thanks goes to all the students and staff who contributed to making The Legacy Project an amazing experience.

**Where to next?** The 'Beyond Legacy' Project promises to take you far beyond the timeline of Legacy and allow visitors to experience the realms of the unknown.

"Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it."  
**Philosopher George Santayana**





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Welcome to the winter edition of the academy newsletter. Once again our newsletter gives a real flavour of the wide range of enriching and engaging activities that our young people participate in. I'm sure you will appreciate as you read this edition that the dedication, commitment and talents of our students are something to behold. We are extremely proud of the achievements of our students both inside and out of the academy.

Our focus on the progress of all students in the academy is our key priority. This year there are a number of changes which we hope our students will benefit from and participate in. Developing independence and autonomy in learning is a vital skill. Our Independent Learning Centres (ILCs) are now open for both Key Stage 3 and 4 students supported by staff from the Intervention team. Mrs Russell-Jones, Director of Intervention and Support and her team of Directors of Achievement and Learning Mentors, have created a really positive and supportive learning environment for students. It is not quite open 24/7 but by popular demand we have extended the opening hours to meet the needs of the students.

At the start of the academic year, the traditional role of Head of Year was replaced by Key Stage Directors: Mrs Edwards (Transition and Year 7), Mr Lucas (Key Stage 3) and Mr Westell (Key Stage 4), are responsible not only for the well-being of their students but also have a keen eye on progress. They are supported by a dedicated and well qualified team of Pastoral Leaders who are able to support students with a variety of welfare programmes. The impact of Positive Discipline in the academy has enabled the Pastoral team to concentrate more on the wider development of our young people.

Many of you will be aware that Sir Barry Day, our Chief Executive, retired in December 2015 and that with effect from 1st January 2016 the GDFT has a new Chief Executive - Mr Wayne Norrie. Wayne is known well at Weston Favell as he worked closely with us from January 2015 as our Executive Principal. He brings a wealth of experience to the Trust from his previous roles in education and has an exciting vision for the development of the Trust. We now have a new Executive Principal, Mr Kelvin Hornsby who will be working with the academy for the forthcoming academic year.

Our commitment to encouraging creative and cross curricular learning continues and is clearly evident in our project for 2016, 'Beyond Legacy'. Work has already begun on preparations for the 'Beyond Legacy' Exhibition which will take place in July 2016. During November, students from across the academy enjoyed a cross-curricular learning day beginning preparations for this project. After school classes and competitions are getting underway and this promises to be even better than Legacy. Mr Peter Williams, Head of DT has been given a two year secondment to the Extended Leadership Team as Director of Creative Curriculum and Learning in the academy to continue to develop this work further over the next two academic years.

At the end of Term 2, we were sad to say goodbye to Mrs Correa-Humphries who left us to join Wollaston School. We thank her for her work and dedication to students at Weston Favell over the last nine years and wish her well in her new adventure. I am delighted to announce that Mrs Daniels will now be acting as Head of Department for Humanities and Social Sciences. We wish her well in this new role in the academy.

It only remains for me to wish you a very happy, peaceful and prosperous New Year. Our second newsletter of the year will be published in June 2016.

**Rachel Steele**  
Principal



## SIXTH FORM HIT THE USA!

We were really lucky to be offered the opportunity to travel to America this year and having returned, I can definitely say that it was a very well organised and worthwhile experience.

To begin our trip, Alex, Danielle and I were slightly worried as we did not know any of the girls from St George's School in Ascot, whom we were going with on this adventure. Our worries quickly faded as we landed after the 8 hour flight.

Spending the first few days in Washington DC, we had many exciting adventures such as Arlington Cemetery and Lincoln's memorial. Our trip progressed onto Williamsburg where we stayed in an inn close to the College of William and Mary.

Whilst in Williamsburg, we visited the historic triangle, an experience of when the British landed in the New World. Shopping trips to the mall and a college football game (American football) were also part of the planned agenda.

Towards the end, no one wanted the trip to end but some great friendships were formed.

**An unforgettable experience that will last a life time!**

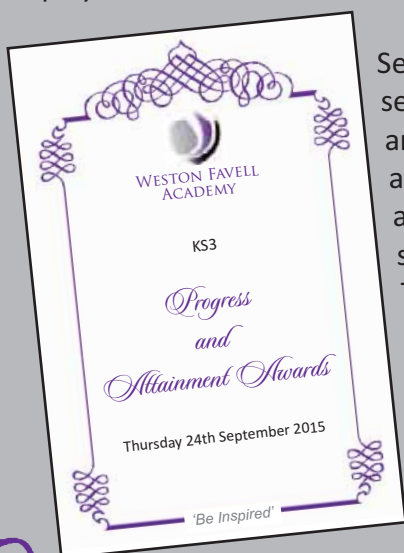
**Emily Long**  
Current Y13 student



## WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY

In September, Weston Favell once again proudly hosted our Progress and Attainment Awards. The evenings were focused on celebrating the success of our students. Progress awards were awarded to students who have made significant progress in particular subjects and Attainment awards to those with outstanding attainment in their subjects. All the award winners were nominated by their teachers across the academy.

Mrs Steele, Principal, opened the ceremonies by talking about how the academy is an incredibly positive place, it is a constant privilege to work amongst young people who are striving to be the best they can be; who sometimes experience self-doubt and lack confidence but who most of all are confident to access the support and seize the opportunities that are available to them. The resilience and determination our students display in order to achieve success is a constant inspiration to us all.



Seventy four students received progress awards and seventy four students received attainment awards for KS3 and KS4. There were twenty seven students who received awards in each subject for KS5. The evenings were well attended by parents and families who showed their support for our students and celebrated in their success. The audience were treated to a photo montage 'Review of the Year' which provided an insight into the range of activities and learning experiences open to our students. It was a real pleasure to see our young people taking on challenges, developing new skills and participating in such a wide range of activities.

In each year groups there was a 'Student of the Year' for Progress and attainment. These awards went to students who received more than one nomination from different subjects.

*'Be Inspired'*





## WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY

Our overall prize winners in each year group for the academic year 2014/15 were as follows:

<b>Year 7 Student of the Year – Progress</b>	<b>Bobby Joynes</b>
<b>Year 7 Student of the Year – Attainment</b>	<b>Malachi Kiloh-Munns</b>
<b>Year 8 Student of the Year – Progress</b>	<b>Juliette Frimpong</b>
<b>Year 8 Student of the Year – Attainment</b>	<b>Lelia Fuchs</b>
<b>Year 9 Student of the Year – Progress</b>	<b>Beth Braybrook</b>
<b>Year 9 Student of the Year – Attainment</b>	<b>Matt Edge</b>
<b>Year 10 Student of the Year – Progress</b>	<b>Ciara Stott and Izaac Long</b>
<b>Year 10 Student of the Year – Attainment</b>	<b>Mason Fitzhugh</b>
<b>Year 12 Student of the Year</b>	<b>Abbey Briscombe</b>
<b>2015 GCSE Student of the Year</b>	<b>Kirsty Edge</b>

Special congratulations go to Lelia Fuchs and Matt Edge who both won their year group award for attainment for the second consecutive year.

This year we introduced a new award for students who have overcome barriers to effective learning. Congratulations to Kirsty Kinnear and Eleanor Morrison who become our first Unsung Heroes.

Alongside the awards ceremonies, there was another opportunity for staff and students to attend our celebrated Legacy exhibition which celebrated the Past, Present and Future. This year long project was the vision of Mr Peter Williams, our Head of Design Technology, and was a triumph of collaboration, commitment and dedication by students and staff from across the academy.

The evenings also provided the opportunity to showcase the musical talent amongst our students. Over the two evenings, we were treated to exceptional performances by Emily Versteegh, Thomas Sabey, Jasmine Brown and Adam Hill.

At the Key Stage 4 ceremony, we were joined by representatives of DHL. The academy has been working in partnership with DHL since 2013. Dean Wyatt, Vice President DHL Business Development Retail UK, presented awards to twenty two students who had successfully completed the DHL Look into Logistics award.

Both evenings were a tremendous success and were enjoyed by all who attended and participated.

*Well done to everyone!*

*‘Be Inspired’*



## JOEY 3rd AT THE NORTHAMPTON TOWN CARNIVAL



Our War Horse project took to a different stage during the summer term as Joey and our students were invited to participate in the Northampton Carnival. The organisers had heard about our project and insisted that we play a part in the town's celebrations.

Students got dressed up in WW1 uniforms, had masks decorated to represent the carnival's story theme and the academy choir sang war songs throughout the parade. With umbrellas at the ready, staff, parents and students turned out to cheer them on.

The procession set off from Abington Park and made its way through town attracting onlookers who braved the weather. Despite steady rain throughout the day, thousands of people lined the streets to watch the parade processing through Northampton. Our War Horse Float also impressed the judges and was awarded 3rd Place for Best Float!

Well done to all the students and staff who supported this event and to Morcea at the Northampton Carnival Arts Consortium for all her support and guidance.





# THE RETURN OF THE SUMMER ACADEMY



Back in August a group of Year 6 students, on their way to joining us the following month in Year 7, took part in our Summer Academy. Now in its second year, the project has grown as more and more students and parents find out about the excellent opportunities and experiences that the academy has to offer. The scheme is not only there to support a smooth transition into Year 7 but build up confidence in the students in their new surroundings.

Every morning, the students took part in an activity ranging from a session with the Cobblers Football coaching team to cricket coaching from the Steelbacks, swimming, dance, and 'make and create'.

During the two weeks, students experienced many activities including art where students created fantastic colourful pieces of work such as bookmarks and masks. Sporting was high on the agenda - students chose from trampolining, rounders, badminton and lots more. The focus of these sporting activities was teambuilding so that the student not only learned new skills but made new friends.

Literacy and numeracy sessions also featured in the timetabled activities. The students learned about storytelling and famous fables, and went onto write and perform their own fable in front of the group. In numeracy, they played a murder mystery maths game and learned about co-ordinates. The egg challenge was a popular return for Science. Students had to make a box that the egg would fit in then drop it off a balcony ..... the egg that survived was the winner!



During the second week, the students enjoyed a trip to the West Midland Safari Park. It was a fantastic day where the students not only saw lots of different animals but also enjoyed the park's attractions ..... in particular the wet water rides!

The culmination of the two week programme was a mini Olympics event in the morning and a parents' assembly in the afternoon. This was an opportunity for parents to celebrate their child's success and achievements over the two weeks. All the students who attended have made a successful transition into Year 7 – congratulations to all who attended.

**Miss E Howes**  
Pastoral Leader – Year 7







### Special recognition to ...

... **Mrs Bright** on her continued success with her online studies. Mrs Bright has successfully achieved a Level 4 Diploma in Child Sociology and Level 4 Diploma High Level Teaching Assistant with Online Academies, along with NVQ Level 3 in Autism Awareness with NCC Home Learning. All this in addition to her new appointment as Learning Mentor/Cover Supervisor in September this year. *Congratulations, Mrs Bright!*

### Special recognition to ...

... to **Richard Collier, SENCO**, who has recently complete a 12 month course of study at Northampton University and has gained the National Award in SEN Co-ordination.

SENCO update - We would like to welcome Siobhan Hyland, Dyslexia Specialist, to WFA. Siobhan combines her work at the University of Northampton with sessions at Weston Favell supporting our pupils with dyslexia. Students work with Siobhan for one session each week and are taught strategies to help them with classroom tasks and assist with homework.

WFA has recently forged a link with Kingsmeadow Primary School in Moulton to assist with their reading programme. Three Sixth Form students, Kirsty Edge, Hayley Pagano and Rebecca Easton visit Kingsmeadow Primary for half a day each week to support pupils in class with their reading. This Reading Mentor initiative will continue during the academic year and will involve another group of Sixth Form students during the next two terms.



### Special recognition to ...

... to all our students involved in pantomimes this year. Congratulations to **Eleanor Morrison (Y11)** and **Jay Blakesley (Y7)** who are both performing in A Christmas Carol at The Castle, and **Jenna Churchman (Y8)**, **Patrick Moriarty (Y10)** and **Molly Shipley (Y11)** who are tripping the boards at The Deco Theatre in Beauty and the Beast.

*Well done to the stars of the future!*





## Special recognition to ...

... **Mr Webster** who applied and has been successful in his application for the Science Club at WFA to be part of the Tim Peake's ESA schools space project. The Club have been selected to grow rocket seeds brought down from the International Space Station to assess the effects of low gravity environments on the growth of plants. Congratulations to Mr Webster for his efforts in securing this exciting project for the Science Club. Watch this space for more news on their progress ...



## Special recognition to ...

... **Ciara McGrath** on her selection to represent Great Britain at the World Age Group Championships in Denmark that took place in December. Ciara, a Year 8 student, won a place in the 11-12 years girls' event at the championships and has also been selected to travel to participate in the Loule Cup in Portugal. Ciara, a member of the Northamptonshire Trampoline and Gymnastics Academy, also enjoyed success at the British Championships back in September when she won a silver medal.

*Congratulations, Ciara.*

We look forward to seeing more of your achievements in the future.



## Special recognition to ...

... to one of our Year 8 students, **John-Carmine Sheppard** who received a Bronze Award at the Children's University Graduation event on Thursday 15th September. This was in recognition of completing 35 hours with the Northampton AIP Animation Holiday Clubs.

The Children's University is an international organisation that celebrates the achievements of children aged 5-14 years old for out-of-normal-school hour activities. These involve activities such as after school clubs, extracurricular activities, half term clubs, the Cargin Moss Karate Club and the NMPAT (music and performing arts) groups that take place across the county.

*Well done, John.*



## Special recognition to ...

... **Alec Alcock** Y9 for winning Bootcamper of the year last year. Alec attended week in week out conquering sweat, tears, mud and a lot of pain but came through with the most points of all the boot campers last year.

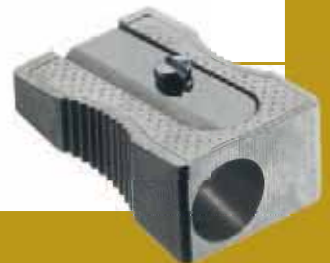
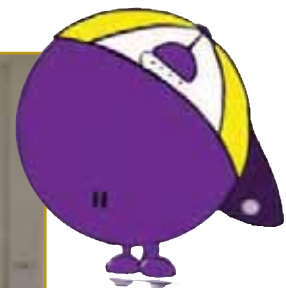
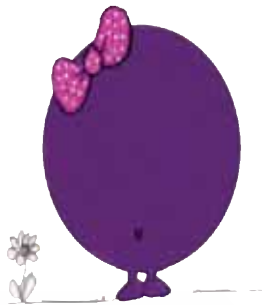
*Well done Alec.*



# SiMPLY EDUCATION



**Thank you.....** to the team at Simply Education, our supply teacher agency, and in particular Samantha McEntee who visited the academy in December with donations of pens, pencils, notepads, stationery sets and many other treats to stock the Purple Points store. These additions to the store were greatly appreciated by the students when the store opened in the run up to Christmas.



## WE NEED YOU!

### We need you!

Are you a bi-lingual or multi-lingual parent?  
Would you be able to help us improve communication for  
parents and students?

We are looking to create a group of parents who are willing to  
help us translate important academy letters and policies into  
different languages to create a more inclusive environment  
for parents and students who are new to English.

If you are willing to help us by translating one or more  
document or are happy to be asked in the future,  
please contact **Mrs E Campbell**  
[ecampbell@westonfavellacademy.org](mailto:ecampbell@westonfavellacademy.org)





# YOUNG ENTERPRISE - NO DAY OFF AT GRAFHAM WATER!

**young  
enterprise**  
start something

Whilst most students enjoyed an extra day off from school on Monday 2nd November due to the teacher training day, a group of Year 12 students taking part in the Young Enterprise scheme this year were busy getting wet and muddy at the Grafham Water Centre in Cambridgeshire. Students worked in groups to complete a number of outdoor activity challenges from climbing high ropes to canoeing and obstacle courses. Students learned the value of teamwork as well as improving their communication skills, assets which they will need to draw on if they are to succeed in the Young Enterprise Scheme this year. The students really enjoyed themselves and were a credit to the academy.

"It was a really fun trip, I enjoyed it lots.

We loved the canoeing, it was a real challenge but we rose to it as a team!"

**Mohammed Baqi**

"It was a great trip which really built my confidence and communication skills. The two days taught us a lot about working in teams."

**Fatima Scuotto**

**Mr J Etherton**  
Lead Teacher  
Business and Computing



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In the last week of term, 40 students and 4 staff visited the WW1 battlefields in France and Belgium. After an early 5.30am start, our first stop was the Tyne Cot Cemetery near Passchendaele; the largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the world. The village of Passchendaele gave its name to one of the most gruelling battles of the Great War. Many of those who died in 1917 fighting to capture the village are buried in Tyne Cot Cemetery. Students were given a chance to reflect on the sacrifices of soldiers who passed and were stunned by the names of almost 35,000 soldiers on the walls of the cemetery who died after 16 August 1917 and who have no known grave.



The next stop on the tour was Langemark German Cemetery which was a stark contrast to Tyne Cot. This cemetery holds the graves of 44,061 German soldiers. Sam Rogers in Year 10 was surprised at how different nationalities remember their dead and found the mass graves at Langemark quite a shock.

On the second day of the tour, we stayed in Belgium and our tour guide took us to Ljissenthoek Cemetery. The cemetery is the largest of a great number of hospital cemeteries that emerged next to the Casualty Clearing Stations; the students learned about the contributions of nurses and medics who gave their lives caring for injured soldiers back to health.

Talbot House, named in honour of Gilbert Talbot, was the next stop on our tour. Talbot House was opened as a clubhouse for soldiers where they could play the piano and borrow books. Talbot House and the lively town of Poperinge, with its small shops, restaurants, inns, coffee houses, cinemas, theatres and dances halls, provided men with a brief escape from the horrors of war. Staff and students enjoyed sampling traditional British tea and scones in the garden of Talbot House.

In the afternoon, we visited Hill 60. This area of high ground along the Messines Ridge was occupied by the Germans and, although only 60 metres above sea level, gave them a crucial vantage point over Ypres. British troops dug 22 tunnels under the hill, 19 of which were exploded on 7 June 1917 under the German lines. The students were saddened to hear about the soldiers who were suffocated under the collapsed hill. Enormous craters in the ground are still able to be seen.

In the afternoon, we returned to Ypres and visited Flanders Field Museum followed by an early evening meal at a local restaurant in Ypres. Mr Millington was particularly impressed with the local cuisine!

After our meal, we made our way down to Menin Gate. The Last Post is sounded every evening at 8pm. This is a deeply moving ceremony that takes place under the vast arch of the Menin Gate.



The traffic stops and buglers from the local fire brigade play "The Last Post". Lily Wilkinson and Matt Edge in Year 10 were selected to lay a wreath on behalf of the academy during the ceremony.

The last day of our tour took us to the Somme region in France. We visited Newfoundland Park

situated in Beaumont-Hamel; this Canadian National Historic Site is a memorial to the Newfoundland Battalion and remains very much as it was in 1916. There are two opposing trench systems that can be clearly seen and a walking trail that traces the journey made by the regiment.

The final stop of our tour was a visit to the famous Thiepval Memorial. This provided a poignant moment as students were able to locate the name of Walter Tull, a British footballer who played for Northampton Town. All students had studied Walter Tull as part of their Key Stage 3 curriculum and understand the significance of his contributions to WW1 as he was the first black officer to lead white British soldiers in battle.

Staff and students returned to Weston Favell Academy at 11pm that evening, tired and bursting with new knowledge. The attitude and behaviour of the students was fantastic and we look forward to taking another group of students next July.

**Miss J Hodgkinson, Head of History**

"In school, I've learned about the conditions the soldiers had to live and fight in but seeing for myself what it was like was very different. It was extremely upsetting to see what people had to go through." **Will Bodsworth**

"Laying the wreath at the Menin gate was such an honour." **Lily Wilkinson**

"I think the Last Post ceremony was the best part of the Battlefields trip because we were able to show our respects to those who were in the war." **Anton Glover**

"My favourite part of the Battlefields trip was going to the Flanders Field Museum. It was interesting to follow the story of a local person who lived in Ypres during the war." **Charlotte Power**

"I enjoyed going around Talbot House and seeing the where the soldiers would have spent their spare time. I loved the way it was all set out." **Jade Marris**





On Wednesday 1st July, the new intake of Year 12 students at the Weston Favell Academy took part in an 'Enterprise Master Class' day run by the group Young Enterprise.

Students were taught all about different employability skills and the world of work. In order to emphasise the importance of these skills, students were placed into small teams and given an enterprise brief which they had to try and achieve. In their teams, students had to design t-shirts as well as consider the marketing mix for their new shirt design; price, place, product and promotion. Each team then had the opportunity to present their designs to a panel of experts from Nationwide and Barclaycard who had also supported the students throughout the day. The panel gave feedback to each group and were suitably impressed by all the students' designs and ideas!

Richard Rochester, Ambassador for Young Enterprise who led the day, commented:

"It was a pleasure to spend the day at Weston Favell Academy with the Year 12 students. Myself and the volunteers from Barclaycard and Nationwide were very impressed with the attitude of the students".

Young Enterprise is the UK's leading enterprise and financial education charity. They give young people, from all backgrounds, the opportunity to realise their full potential and the day focused on students improving five key qualities – communication, teamwork, problem-solving, creativity and resilience. The Head of Sixth Form, Mr May, certainly agreed that the students had developed these skills.

"It was great to see the students so engaged and all of them who attended today have developed those crucial transferable skills."



Young Enterprise will continue to play an important part in the life of the academy's Sixth Form students next year, and all Year 12 students will have the opportunity to engage in Young Enterprise projects throughout the course of the academic year.

**Mr J Etherton**  
Lead Teacher – Business and Computing





## A Taste of University Life

Last July, a group of Year 9 students were taken to Northampton University to explore university life and attend talks on ideas and awareness.

We first met Mike who briefly introduced the day and then we met our guides who then took us on a tour of the campus including the accommodation that is available, and talked to us about life at university and the groups, societies and opportunities that are available.

After the tour, and back in the lecture theatre, there was a session on the importance of ideas and we were asked to find alternative uses for everyday objects, such as drainpipes and cardboard boxes.



This led to a task where we created an idea pitch for a product associated with health and safety for children, where proposed ideas included things from daily vitamin biscuits, to safety trackers, to health and safety themed apps.

The next seminar was on awareness; we began by looking at optical illusions and negative space in common logos such as those of Toblerone and Amazon. We then watched two videos testing our awareness and were given a quiz afterwards, where mugs were prizes for the winners.

Overall, it was an inspiring and thought-provoking day out that opened many minds to the idea of university life in the future.

**Lily Wilkinson, Current Year 10 student**

## A first for TeachFirst

In September, the Weston Favell Academy was joined by its first cohort of Teach First students. Mark Whitgift joined the Science department, John Rolfe the Maths department, and Aaron Ramsbottom, the Modern Foreign Languages department.

Teach First specialises in young graduates who complete an intensive training programme before going on to complete a two year Leadership and Development Programme within a school environment.

'I have really enjoyed my first term at Weston Favell Academy. I have met so many kind, conscientious students who try their best at all times. I really hope this continues throughout my time here.'

**Aaron Ramsbottom**  
MFL

"My start at WFA has been great; it's been fantastic to settle into the Science Department. I've received a lot of support and feel very welcome here!"

**Mark Whitgift**  
Science

"It's been a really great start to the academic year: all of the staff are hugely supportive and I'm proud to work with so many enthusiastic, thoughtful and engaging students."

**John Rolfe**  
Maths





# Dying to get high?

*just because it's legal doesn't mean it's safe!*

A key issue for young people today is the limited education and general guidance on the use of legal highs.

Young people who are not informed about these powerful substances are vulnerable to the effects which can be devastating. There have even been deaths linked to synthetic cannabis. The way they are marketed makes them appear as low risk when they are potentially highly dangerous and damaging. Synthetic cannabinoids have been linked to many serious incidents where young people have collapsed, and there have been several occasions of teenagers all over the country being hospitalised after smoking these mixtures before or at school.

On 7th September, Joy Smith, Project Coordinator from Solve It, visited the Weston Favell Academy to deliver informative presentations to each year group on the dangers of legal highs. Each presentation was specifically created for the target audience age group. For 25 years, Solve It have provided a specialist service dedicated to increasing awareness of solvent abuse providing support to those directly affected and their families. Their mission statement is: To provide a dedicated service to young people, adults, professionals and organisations that promotes understanding, awareness and education of the consequences of legal highs. The Solve It Vision is that no-one will die or suffer health consequences through lack of awareness of the dangers of the misleading term, legal highs.

The key elements of Solve Its service provision are;

- **Preventative Education**
- **Early Intervention**
- **Counselling and Support**

They believe that every young person should be provided with the skills and understanding of how to make a safe choice; the understanding of how this can be influenced by various explicit and implicit thoughts, words and actions of their own and others, as well as recognising and understanding the influence of the media.







They encourage young people:



- To play an active role as citizens
- To develop healthy, safer lifestyles
- To develop life skills increasing confidence and self-esteem, inspiring them to make the most of their abilities

Solve It believe that prevention through education is paramount to ensuring that the critically important message "legal does not mean safe" is conveyed to all those considering, and at risk of taking substances that are completely untested and marketed 'not for human consumption'.

After her visit to the Weston Favell Academy, Joy said:

"It was great having the opportunity to speak to all of the children; they are a credit to the academy, so well behaved and attentive. I truly hope that they received the education and information to support them with any future choices they may have to make."

The students said: "This was really informative" and "I now know more about legal highs and their dangers".

Solve It have an on-line, drop in, confidential service for young people, parents and carers from 10 am- 12pm on Mondays. To access this service, follow the link below and click 'chat with us'. Alternatively call **01536 414690** or **07496 371365**  
<http://www.solveitonline.co.uk>

Solve It can also be found on Twitter **@SolveItVSA** or Facebook as **SolveIt**

An Informative video can be accessed by following the link below.  
<https://youtu.be/xRtN-spKorg>



## YEAR 8 COUNTY CUP FOOTBALL V KETTERING BUCCLEUCH ACADEMY 8TH DECEMBER 2015

Following the match having to be abandoned 2 weeks ago due to the weather, the Year 8 team were highly motivated to go to Kettering and try their hardest to win.

Kettering battled hard for the first 20 minutes closing down Weston Favell at every chance until a through ball to Will Jones (Captain) opened up the Kettering defence; Will scored our first goal. Two minutes later and the same through ball saw the back of the net, again by Will. A brilliant first half with a 2-0 lead!

The second half saw WFA hitting the target time after time but the Buccleuch goalkeeper was outstanding, keeping out over 20 shots on goal. Following a counter attack, Kettering crossed and this was met by Ollie James, unfortunately in his own net!

The next 10 minutes saw Kettering attack the WFA defence but with only a further one shot on goal. WFA stood strong, we countered again and again, and goals from Adam Hall and Will Jones (again!) saw WFA win 7-1 and through to the quarter finals.

Men of the match: Will Jones scoring 5 goals and Troy Haines, centre midfield 'terrier', not giving the Kettering players any time on the ball!

Team: *William Jones (C), Josh Bradshaw, Troy Haines, Yannik Tyrell, Owen Weir (GK), Adam Hall, Ollie James, Ebuka Onwumechili, Tommy Sumner, Jacob Brannan, Cairan Tiernan, Nehemiah Richard-Noel, Tom Wilson*

A brilliant performance and result! Well done!

The team now go on to the quarter finals to challenge Brooke Weston from Corby.

## Battle to the next round of the County Cup

The Year 9 Boys Football Team progressed to the next round of the County Cup after a hard fought win over Elizabeth Woodville School.

The side started well against a strong opposition carving a number of great opportunities during the first half. However despite their dominance, they went in all square at 0-0 at half time. An early goal in the second half by Cain Michael was cancelled out 10 minutes from the end by EWS. WFA continued to create chance after chance that they were unable to take.

They fell 2-1 behind with 5 minutes to go on only for Jamie Holmes to score 2 minutes later. The game went into extra time and the boys fell behind for the second time in the game against the run of play. Matthew Wilson then equalised again taking the game to penalties.

The boys won the penalty shootout 3-2 with successful spot kicks from Ryan Clements, Jamie Holmes and Alex Greene.

Congratulations to the team on an excellent but nail biting performance.

Mr J Lucas - KS3 Director







Friday 16th October saw the first competitive tournament of 2015 of the All Schools' Programme held at the Boys Brigade Old Boys RFC, Northampton. The tournament, organised by the RFU, is the first of many between Weston Favell, Abbeyfield, Malcolm Arnold and Kingsthorpe Community College.

The WFA team had been training very hard for 8 weeks every Monday night with a dedicated squad of around 25 players. The Year 7 team played 5 games and won them all! This was an outstanding achievement from the Year 7 squad; despite not having substitutions, the team were organised and committed to every ruck and tackle and out-scored every team to win the tournament.

Congratulations to: Cody Leggatt, Matthew Douglas, Jack Brennan, Connor Wills, Jack Lynch, Dewi Collins, Artjoms Silins, Ben Clews, Lewis Britten-Welford, Amin Ahmed, Luke Shave, Matthew Garner, Harry Woodford, Antony George, Ethan Cooper.

Also thanks to Ebuka Onwumechili who travelled with the squad of players as a Rugby Leader and led the warm up and helped out with the tournament.

## WHAT NEXT IN THE RUGBY CALENDAR?

**Tuesday 26th January**  
CASUALS Rugby Club (Year 7)

**Thursday 1st March**  
BBOB RFC (Year 8)

**Tuesday 22nd March**  
ONs RFC (Year 7 and 8 Girls)







## All Schools' Rugby Varsity Match Northamptonshire XV versus Bedfordshire XV

Year 9 players from 16 secondary schools descended on the Wellingborough Rugby Club on Monday 7th December for the third Varsity match; representing WFA were Adam Condon and Caleb Stone.



The All Schools' Programme forms one of the seven areas of focus for the RFU to deliver the greatest participation legacy for Rugby Union beyond the RWC 2015. Both Caleb and Adam were nominated as players of excellence and performed well in a really tough match against a Bedfordshire XV who were VERY big and physical! Bedfordshire were outright winners (8 tries to 1!!) but it was a great afternoon of rugby. Well done to Caleb and Adam who were awarded medals at the end.



## Embracing Futsal

This term, a team of both boys and girls from Years 7, 8 and 9 attended a futsal tournament at Thomas Beckett Academy. The Year 7 boys finished fourth, and the girls produced an outstanding performance to be crowned joint winners of the Futsal Town Competition; a fantastic achievement for their first time playing together as a team!

In the Year 8 and 9 competitions, both teams performed brilliantly finishing second in the competition. Well done to all of the students involved; keep up your enthusiasm and commitment.

**Mrs M Pearson - Teacher of PE**



## Hard work pays off

The hard efforts from all Weston Favell Academy athletes at Boot Camp and at Running Club have paid off with impressive performances in the Northampton Cross Country League. Students took part in three local races and a district qualifier. The following students deserve a special mention after qualifying for the district team.

**Lewis Panter, Olivia Reeves, Brianna Smith, Lucy Van Uem, Tyler White, Sarah Ferrison**

Congratulations to the rest of the team for their contribution to the overall performance: Lauren Bennie-Cullen, Storm Burke, Josie Hilton, Konrad Polacz, Yasmin Rahmouni, Sophie Taylor, Ciara Williams, Scott Woods, Shaun Bragg, TJ Gamblen, and Johnny Williams.

Both Mrs Pearson and I have been very impressed with the above athletes for their outstanding efforts and the manner in which they have conducted themselves when competing. We would also like to encourage all students to attend Running Club on a Monday and/or Boot Camp on a Friday after school to ensure that we continue the sporting success at the Weston Favell Academy – all abilities welcome.

**Mr L Berrill - Teacher of PE**

**Mrs Pearson - Teacher of PE**







A special invitation went out to female students in Year 8 to participate and celebrate in the first Nationwide 'Ada Lovelace Day' on Tuesday 13th October. Over a dozen students had a

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) day of engaging and brainstorming activities ..... all in the name of STEM.

These activities ranged from code breaking, career seminars, video conferencing, and a tour of the Nationwide Building in Northampton.

It is hoped that Ada Lovelace programme will become an annual event to ensure that we get STEM on the map for these bright young women of the future.



## Year 8 Charity Day 10th July 2015

On 10<sup>th</sup> July 2015, Year 8 students hosted a charity day to raise money for 'Kidzaid', a new local charity based in Northampton. 'Kidzaid' is working to help children who have suffered from traumatic events ranging from illness and peer pressure through to family bereavements, domestic violence and abuse.

Events included the ever popular cake and sweet stall, hot dogs, 'how many sweets in the jar' and 'guess the baby' competition, which proved very popular amongst the students. There was a buzz and excitement during break and lunch time, and it was a joy to see students happily stepping out of their comfort zone for a good cause. The Weston Favell Academy prides itself on creating a school ethos with relationships and community at its heart. As part of this, the school actively encourages all students to get involved in fundraising activities for both local and national charities.

The Year 8 students raised a whopping £2,218.11 in total. It is great to see the students' commitment and enthusiasm to raising so much money for their community. A huge thank you to everyone who participated and supported the event. Mrs S Edwards and Mrs J Clifford



#NBSAdaLovelace

## Minion appearance at WFA!



Miss Cooper's form, 9NCO, celebrated in style at the end of the summer term with a Minion cake beautifully made by Meg Vowles' mum.



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## BOOK CLUB – Calling all readers

Book Club is new and improved: come along to the LRC on a Wednesday after school and meet students from all year groups ..... who are running the club themselves! Play games, tell jokes, act parts and enjoy the refreshments.

You might even read the odd book from time to time.

No sign-up required, just make sure your parents know you are attending and we finish at 4:30pm.

**“A room without books is like a body without a soul”**

**Marcus Tullius Cicero**

### Library Displays

We have been really busy creating new displays in the Library to engage students and promote ‘Reading for Pleasure’.

The eye catching displays we have designed range from Steam Punk to The Great British Bake Off, Black History month to graphic novels and of course, Remembrance Day. Here are a few examples of our displays.

**Mrs L Frohawk and Miss K Barton**  
LRC Team



## 100% Score wins a Kobo E-Reader!

Achieving a score of 85% or higher on a book quiz in the Accelerated Reader scheme shows good comprehension and helps to improve student reading age test scores. To encourage this, the LRC rewards every student who passes a quiz in their book level range. Students who get 100% are given their Star on the ‘Accelerated Reader Wall of Fame’.

Each term, we will be randomly selecting a winner from among our Accelerated Reader Stars. For the first draw at the end of the autumn term, 283 students had already achieved 100% on at least one quiz. Lucky number 162 was the draw winner which means Tammy Castle from Year 8 is the proud owner of a brand new Kobo e-reader. Congratulations, Tammy!



**Mrs L Frohawk, LRC Manager**



# ALICE IN WONDERLAND

**IS LOOKING VERY GOOD  
FOR HER AGE!**

It is now 150 years since Alice first fell down that rabbit hole to start her Adventures in Wonderland. The book has been re-printed dozens of times, turned into comic book format, adapted over 20 times for film and television, became a computer game and has been re-produced as a Broadway musical. It seems there is something very special about Alice!

We have some really beautiful illustrated versions of the story in the LRC so if you've never got to know the story properly before, why not give it a try to celebrate such an important birthday?

<http://bit.ly/Aliceis150>



## KIDS' LIT QUIZ

This November we took 8 students to the Central England heat of the International Kids' Lit Quiz held at the prestigious Comberton Village College. There were 22 teams of 4 students competing to represent England in the final in New Zealand next summer.

Question Categories, which were announced on the day, included; aliases, authors' pics, brothers and sisters, constructions, Christmas, creatures, Dads, dogs, families and pot luck.

There were 10 rounds in total, each with 10 questions. Teams each selected a 'joker' round where they could double up their points for that round. Our 'Weston Wizards' team opted to play their joker for the Christmas round and were delighted when they managed to win a high score.

Meanwhile, 'Favell Firebolts' found that playing their joker for the families round was a good idea even though they would have scored higher if they had played it on the Christmas round! C'est la vie!



At the end of each round, while the scores were frantically totalled up, there was an individual round for students and for librarians. The questions were selected from this year's final and students had the opportunity to win £2 if they were the first to answer a question.

Unfortunately, we did not finish in the top 3 this time and the place in the final went to Kimbolton School's 'Kimquestors'. All the students had a brilliant time and were an absolute credit to the academy with their behaviour and attitude. "I could not have been more proud of them, even if we had actually won!"

**Mrs T Frohawk, LRC Manager**

*Congratulations go to: Shukri Barre, Storm Burke, Thomas Edwards, Bobby Joynes, Amelia Munro, Mudra Soni, Angelica Vial and Lucy Van Uem.*



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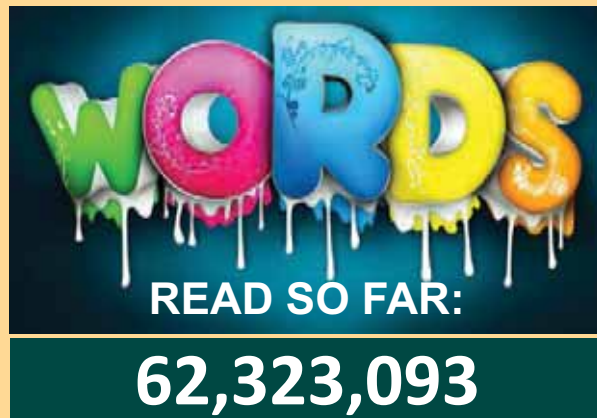
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All students in KS3 at the academy participate in a reading scheme called Accelerated Reader which measures readers' understanding of text using a short computer-based quiz. The quizzes are taken by students when they complete their book, which allows us to guide them towards more challenging books and greater success.

Students and parents can check current Accelerated Reader targets and see how much progress they have made towards their targets using "Home Connect"

<http://www.westonfavellacademy.org/accelerated-reading/>  
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 academy as a whole. Our target this year is to beat our previous record of 300,000,000 words!



## WFA AT THE BIG BOOK QUIZ

On 1st July, I took 2 teams from Key Stage 3 to take part in the annual Big Book Quiz hosted at Sir Christopher Hatton Academy in Wellingborough. There were 6 categories each of 20 questions, testing the students' knowledge on; elephants, witches, spies, David Walliams, book awards and divergent games.

**District 12 Divergents** – Angelica Vial, George Withington, Reece Evans and Anna Inglese won the round on David Walliams, winning a medal for each member and the **Wicked Weston Witches** – Lily Wilkinson, Howard Chung, Lucy Van Uem and Ben Cookman ironically won Divergent Games' round also winning a medal for each team member.



DISTRICT 12 DIVERGENTS



WICKED WESTON WITCHES

Fifteen teams from schools across the county took part and I was delighted when District 12 Divergents came first winning a trophy and a goodie bag full of books. Wicked Weston Witches came second also winning a medal and a goodie bag each.

The students also had the opportunity to meet Alex Gutteridge author of 'No Going Back' and 'Last Chance Angel'. All the students really enjoyed the day and are looking forward to taking part again next year.

Mrs T Frohawk, LRC Manager



# CARNEGIE COMES TO WFA

I was delighted to be nominated as a judge for the prestigious CILIP Carnegie and Greenaway Children's Book Award which is the UK's most prestigious book award. The CILIP Carnegie Medal is awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book for children and young people and the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal is awarded by children's librarians for an outstanding book in terms of illustration for children and young people.

I travelled to Glasgow to attend a judges' meeting and received training on judging the nominated books for each award. I was also fortunate enough to attend the CILIP Youth Library Group conference on "Diversity, Variety and Choice: How to put the right book in the right hands", where I had the chance to network with librarians from all over the UK, as well as having the opportunity to attend a variety of workshops which were both informative and inspiring.

The highlight of the conference was attending the Gala Dinner where the winners of this year's awards were presented with their medals. I was fortunate enough to meet this year's Carnegie winner, Tanya Landman, author of 'Buffalo Soldier' and the winner for the Kate Greenaway medal, William Grill, author and illustrator of 'Shackleton's Journey'.



The LRC's Book Group has always shadowed this award but for the next two years there will be extra value added! There really are exciting times ahead!

For more information about the awards check out their website:

<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/home/index.php>

Mrs L Frohawk, LRC Manager



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# MACBETH



The release of the new movie version of Macbeth starring Michael Fassbender and Marion Couillard could not have been better timed for the Year 13 Literature class, as they have just begun their study of the play in preparation for their final exam. They had seen the teaser trailer and were eager to critique the performances themselves so off we all went on local public transport to the Errol Flynn Picturehouse in Northampton. As a cinematic event, everyone agreed that the movie was spectacular although there were many individual critiques of finer

aspects of the play which were left out. Some thought that the war scenes were extremely violent, others thought that Lady Macbeth was not nearly as evil as she needed to be and several, no names mentioned, found absolutely no criticism of any scenes involving Mr Fassbender himself!



**Miss Z Algar, Head of English**

# MERCHANT OF VENICE

**RSC LIVE FROM STRATFORD-UPON-AVON**

**THE MERCHANT OF VENICE**  
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE



A few were tempted to buy some souvenirs with comedy quotes from the Bard himself and others were just happy to take in the size and magnificence of the theatre itself.

After taking in the sights and posing for a few pictures outside the theatre, it was time to watch the long-awaited performance from some of the best seats in the house. The set itself was extremely unusual with a gold backdrop and a constantly ticking pendulum the only objects on stage. As the drama unfolded, the audience were on the edge of their seats, some willing for Shylock to take his pound of flesh and others hoping that he might listen to reason. Everyone agreed that the delivery of the key speeches was superb.

On a sunny day at the start of September, the Year 13 English Literature class went to Shakespeare's own town, Stratford-Upon-Avon, to watch 'Merchant of Venice'; the play which they studied for their AS examination. Being in Stratford gave everyone a deeper insight into the world of the plays they had studied and a clearer understanding of a place which almost defines what it is to be British.

"The trip to see Shakespeare's 'The Merchant of Venice' was a thrilling experience which provided a great deal of insight into the use of artistic licence in the interpretations of plays; very useful for my studies of the text!"

**Iain Mackenzie**

**Miss Z Algar, Head of English**





## AUTHOR VISITS GALORE!

It has been an incredibly busy time in the LRC this term! We have been fortunate enough to have two award winning authors and a performance poet visit! Year 7 students welcomed Carnegie shortlisted author & illustrator, Dave Shelton, Year 8 students were entranced by performance poet, The Dreadlock Alien, and Year 9 students were inspired by the amazing Bali Rai.



### Dave Shelton

Author, Illustrator & Comic Book Writer Dave gave a presentation to all Year 7 students explaining where he gets his ideas from, who he bases his characters on and even showed the students a variety of his illustrations. Dave then ran a creative writing workshop and a 'Create a Character' workshop in the LRC. Everyone enjoyed the day and students were absolutely amazed by Dave and his wonderful illustrating talent; when they

bought books and asked Dave to sign them, not only did they have his autograph but also a brilliant illustration too!

### Dreadlock Alien

Year 8 students were amazed and dumbfounded by the incredibly talented performance poet, Dreadlock Alien. They were mesmerised by his performances and even joined into 'Beat Box' with him. He performed to all Year 8 students and then ran creative writing workshops in the LRC for 3 classes, ending the day with a Poetry Slam Off!

Dreadlock Alien is one of the hardest working artists in the West Midlands. He tours UK venues with his performance poetry and slam sets as well as three plays, Amalgam Jam, Soundclash and Chocolate Wars. His urban hip-hop dub flow verse delivery of words and concepts, address issues such as citizenship, identity, immigration and Black British experiences. Our Year 8 students thought he was great to get along with, good to talk to and funny. It really was an amazing day!



### Bali Rai

Bali Rai delivered a presentation to all of our Year 9 students. They really enjoyed his humour and tales about where he gets his inspiration from for writing his novels. They were also really surprised to learn that Sue Townsend, author of Adrian Mole, was Bali's main inspiration and that she also became a very good friend.

Bali then worked with small groups of students in the LRC for the remainder of the

day. He really is a hard working author who is always happy to work with young adults as he engages with them using brilliant stories of his youth! We know he was a success as so many students came into the LRC at the end of the day to chat with Bali and buy signed copies of his amazing books!



Life in the Music Department progresses apace. We are proud to announce that we have several students successful in their auditions for County Ensembles and Bands:

**Tanina Bartaby (8TNI) - County Training Choir**

**Jasmine Brown (11ASH) - String Sinfonia and County Training Orchestra**

**Sophie Dunkerley (11PLE) - County Training Wind Orchestra & County Flute Choir**

**Matt Edge (10CLY) - County Youth Theatre**

**Cameron Hill (10CLY) - County Youth Theatre**

**Sean Lonergan (9AMU) - County Training Brass Band & County Junior Orchestra**

**Thomas Sabey (11ALD) - County Youth Choir, County Training Strings & Zingaresque**

**Emily Versteegh (11PLE) - County Training Wind Orchestra**

## **Congratulations to you all!**

Whilst we celebrate their success, we also congratulate Matt Edge on gaining Distinction in his recent Grade 4 Keyboard exam, and Adam Hill for gaining Merit in his Grade 3 piano exam. Students achieving musical exam success outside of the academy are encouraged to share this with the Performing Arts department. We would be delighted to hear from you!

There are several new innovations in music this year. We are very excited to launch, alongside our Guitar teacher Mr Dezalu, a brand new extra-curricular opportunity in Rock School. This is already growing with both students and staff participating enthusiastically.

We have also launched a series of informal concerts for students to have the opportunity to perform in a safe and friendly environment. Students, parents and peripatetic teachers are already seeing the benefits with more students than ever using the rehearsal facilities whilst others have been able to show parents that it is worthwhile buying a new instrument.

Early next term we are very much looking forward to visiting the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden for a performance of Tosca as well as going to the SSE Wembley Arena to participate in Voice in a Million.

These are just a few of the exciting opportunities we strive to provide for our students here at the Weston Favell Academy, so look out in the next issue for reports on these trips, no doubt with pictures and student comments.

**Miss C Lyttle, Teacher of Music**







The School Pastors initiative is managed by The Ascension Trust, a national Christian charity established in 2002, which oversees a number of projects. It is best known for the Street Pastors movement which now has more than 9,000 volunteers in teams all over the UK and internationally –

<http://www.streetpastors.org/>

In February 2014, there were 22 active school and college Pastors initiatives in the UK. The role of the School Pastor is to care for and support the school community by listening to and helping young people create a safer environment as they make their way home from school.

The Weston Favell Academy launched the Northampton School Pastors Programme on Friday 6th November 2015. Working in conjunction with the academy, the School Pastors are there to help and support our students. The Pastors patrol outside the school from 3.10 – 5.00 pm once a week during term time on a Friday, meeting the students as they come out of school. The Pastors identify and patrol routes where potential problems may occur to ensure that students are able to access their support if needed, providing a friendly presence and engaging positively with our students.



School Pastors are volunteer members of the local community who care about young people and genuinely want to help. All Pastors are Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked and are also trained to ensure that they are able to provide the right level of support for the students. The project has been welcomed by the local community and the Pastors have developed a good working relationship with the academy and other organisations, working within the school and the local community.

Feedback on the project has been very positive and encouraging. School Pastors can be identified by their uniforms which include a cap or hat as well as the ID badges that they will carry while out on patrol.

The Northampton School Pastors Programme is supported by –



For more information on the Northampton School Pastors Programme, contact Karen (the Northampton School Pastors Coordinator) by e-mail at:

[northampton.coordinator@schoolpastors.org.uk](mailto:northampton.coordinator@schoolpastors.org.uk)

Please also visit –

<http://www.schoolpastors.org.uk/>

<http://streetpastors.org/locations/northampton/school-pastors/>





On 23rd November, all students and staff had a collapsed curriculum day which focused on the Creative Curriculum Project 'Beyond Legacy'.

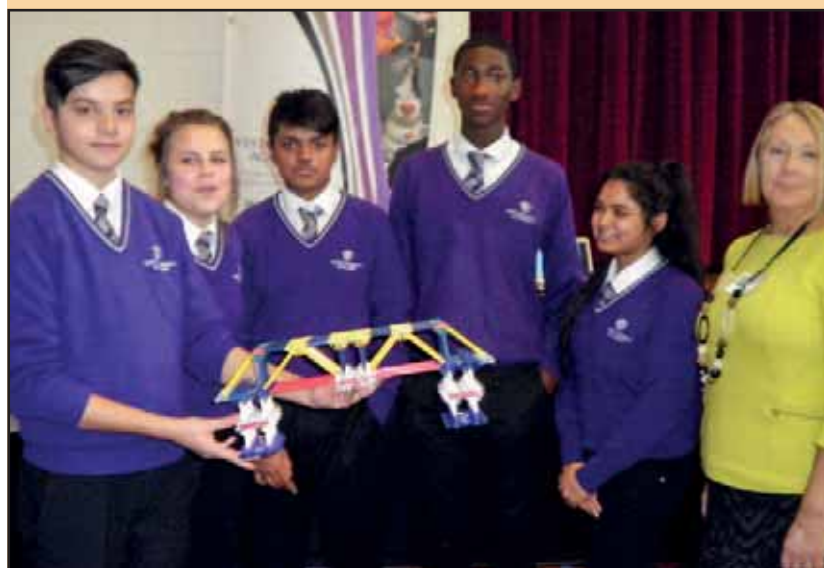
The objective for the day was to embed the STEM (Science, Technology,

Engineering and Maths) initiative across the whole academy. These activities allowed our students to take on roles associated with engineering and enterprise based challenges. Both students and staff demonstrated that they could adapt and try something outside their normal subjects.

Year 7 students were involved in designing and setting up a Legacy Music Festival. They were supported by our Sixth Form students who provided outstanding leadership and mentoring. This supported them in their team roles and assisted in them making excellent progress.

"They met every challenge given and all gained their Discovery Crest. Listening to them talk through their proposals was lovely and the work produced, through the support of the excellent teachers, was to a high standard, especially considering this is normally for Year 9 students." Katharine Chisholm (Leicestershire Education Business Company)

Year 8 students got to design and build large scale structures to test as part of the Bridge Challenge. There were over 39 teams in the sports hall involving more than 190 students. Once built, students had to test their bridge in front of a panel of judges.



Year 9 students were split between the KNEX Challenges and the World of Masks. The KNEX Challenge was based in the main hall, with over 100 students working together to build and test structures before becoming the next Lewis Hamilton to design and race their own F1 car. The finale led to a drag race to see which car was the fastest.

The World of Masks involved over 70 students. The task was to research, design and produce a creative mask. The students were inspired by a country of their choice resulting in 70 amazing hand crafted masks which are to form a display piece within the academy.





The Art department used the day to focus on their GCSE Mocks. The students have used the Beyond Legacy theme for their Coursework.

Most of the KS4 and 5 students braved the cold to compete in the Legacy Games, as well as having the opportunity to take part in an enriched day of support and intervention in Science.

## **Congratulations to our Legacy games winners:**

**BOYS:** Jake Chambers, Mayson Russell, Andrei Scurt, Solomon Taylor, Kieron Hammond, Ciprian Iovanescu, Reece Webster, Emmanuel Ghoma-Nkenda, Niraj Panchal

**GIRLS:** Ellen McCarthy, Ellie Richings, Richa Patel, Jelena Kozyrickaja, Khadiza Sultan, Panashe Kabata, Hannah Donovan, Charlotte Boshell, Megan Bazeley

The Steam Punk workshop saw students getting 'Steam Punked! The activities ranged from building a futuristic hovercraft to a moving and breathing Steam Punked Dinosaur!

History Students became code breakers in the Engima Challenge with Year 11 Student Jaye Culverhouse leading a successful Engima Programming Workshop. This workshop was a great way of linking the old with the latest in programming and code breaking using Raspberry Pis. Jaye greatly impressed the Crest Award Inspectors who remarked, "With his fabulous teaching manor, patience and amazing knowledge, he will certainly have a guaranteed job when he leaves education. I don't normally suggest Gold to a student that is not in Year 13 but, as for Jaye, he should definitely go for Gold if he wishes. I would be more than happy to recommend him for this."

The day was a great success.

## **Here are a few quotes about the day...**

"A great opportunity to try something different!" **Miss J Hodgkinson (Head of History)**

"Creative learning is the way we can develop our students' hidden talents and engage them in improving their chances in both education and life-skills for the future...cracking day!" **Mr P Leaver (Teacher of History)**

"The groups submitted some exceptional material considering their age, levels and timescale." **Mr R Meadham (Teacher of Music)**

"Not only did we solve the codes, we also learned the history behind how they came about." **Mollie Marshall (Year 9)**

"It was really good fun!" **Logan Soan (Year 9)**

"The staff were great to work with and took on the Unknown Challenge in their stride. Because of this, the students were very enthusiastic and produced excellent work, and clearly enjoyed themselves, as asking to work through break and lunch is not something you hear every day." **Katharine Chisholm (Leicestershire Education Business Company)**



# INSPIRATION AT LONDON MUSEUMS

On a warm day in July, the Art and DT team took a group of Year 7 students to London for an exciting day of educational wonder. In preparation for the Beyond Legacy exhibition in summer 2016, the team wanted to inspire the students for this next big project. Our aim was to see dinosaurs, giant whales and inventions from the future - we were not disappointed!



Our first stop was the Natural History Museum. It was extremely busy but we still had lots of fun and saw plenty of dinosaurs, fossils, giant mammals, massive trees, creepy crawlies and, of course, the gift shop!



Next stop ..... the Science Museum. There was so much to see but we whizzed around in our groups trying to experience as much as we could. We learned about past, present and future inventions, the history of flying and space missions. There were also opportunities to play games and interactive exhibitions. We took photos, created sketches and at the end, another opportunity to visit a gift shop!

Tired out but inspired, we made our way back to the coach and headed home with students all thinking about what they could create for Beyond Legacy upon our return to the academy. We hope to see you at Beyond Legacy in July 2016 to show you the ideas and inventions we came up with!

**Ms E Walker - Teacher of Art**



## humanutopia®

Inspiring change in people & communities

On the 15th and 16th of September, the Weston Favell Academy was delighted to welcome back Human Utopia to continue their work with our students in two "Who are you now?" events.

The experience is designed to empower young people to develop critical life skills and take motivation and ownership of their education. These events provide positive and memorable experiences for students and are perfect complements to their academic studies.

On 17th September, a number of Year 10 and Sixth Form students were given the opportunity to take part in the "Hero's journey". This gives these students the skills to help to mentor and support other students within the academy and for them to become leaders and role models in their year group. This was a voluntary course which an amazing 93 students gave up their time to attend. Another fantastic 3 days with Human Utopia.



### Year 7 "Who are you?" day

The "Who Are You?" day is an experience which deals with important teenage issues around personal awareness, peer pressure and conformity. It encourages students to reflect on their life chances, encouraging them to have high hopes and aspirations for their future. This event had a big impact on some of our Year 7 students who took part in a range of activities about who they are and who they want to become.

We are looking forward to welcoming Human Utopia back in the near future to continue their work with the Weston Favell Academy.

Comments from our students:  
"Had an amazing day with @humanutopia, thanks for being an inspiration"

"Thanks for helping me find my inner confidence"

"Today was inspirational and life changing"

humanutopia®  
Inspiring change in people & communities

"Awesome day with WFA hero's, what a pleasure to watch young people making a difference" - **Carlo**

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Inspiring change in people & communities

"Feeling proud and inspired by Weston Favell students, can't wait to be back" - **Mo**



December  
2015

## Steps to Success Newsletter

Year 11

On Thursday 26th November 2015, we hosted an extremely successful evening for our Year 11 students to come in with their parents to help with their journey to success this academic year and beyond.

The evening gave them the opportunity to collect several helpful resources, including our jam packed 'Steps to Success Booklet', a Sixth Form Application Pack and meet all of the departments, collecting subject specific information as they went and also details of the Prom!

All those who attended were able to pick up a free USB memory stick ready to fill with more useful revision resources or an official revision guide of their choice.

### Steps to Success Booklet

- ⇒ Passport to Prom 2016
- ⇒ Subject Specific Info
- ⇒ Comprehensive revision hints and tips and advice
- ⇒ Personal Progress Information
- ⇒ Personal PD update
- ⇒ Exams Calendar Summer 2016
- ⇒ Revision Timetable
- ⇒ Mentoring Session pro forma

### Key Dates:

#### Full Mock Exams : (All Subjects)

5/01/2016—15/01/2016

#### DHL Y11 Apprentice Careers Day:

28/01/2016

#### Full Report & Progress Checks:

01/02/2016

#### February Half Term:

13/02/2016-21/02/2016

#### Year 11 Group Photograph:

22/03/2016

#### Easter Break:

24/04/2016-10/04/2016

#### Practical Exams:

21/03/2016

#### Trust Mocks: (English & Maths)

18/04/2016—22/04/2016

#### GCSE Exams:

09/05/2016—01/07/2016

#### May Half Term Break:

28/05/2016-05/06/2016

#### Year 11 Prom:

07/07/2016

#### Easter Holiday Revision:

28/03/2016-  
08/04/2016

### Useful Contacts:

- Darryl Westell - Director of KS4  
dwestell@westonfavellacademy.org
- Suzy Shirley - Pastoral Leader Y11  
sshirley@westonfavellacademy.org
- Catherine Russell-Jones Director of Intervention and Learning Support. Crussell-jones@westonfavellacademy.org
- Lee Berrill - Director of Achievement  
lberrill@westonfavellacademy.org

If you require support or assistance please call: 01604 402121

### Learning Aids:

Please make sure you have access to the following website links:

#### GCSE POD:

www.gcsepod.com

#### Kerboodle:

www.kerboodle.com

#### Show My Homework:

www.showmyhomework.co.uk

#### My Maths:

www.mymaths.co.uk

#### Breakfast Time

Once the GCSE exams commence the 'Independent Learning Centre' will be open from 7:30 am for revision and a FREE light breakfast!





In June, Year 10 Geography students packed their wellies and headed off to sunny Hunstanton to complete their GCSE Geography coursework on coastal defences. The students had been studying coastal defences in lessons and had to complete a report on the different types of defences and how effective they were in protecting people and the environment. The students had to look at the coastal defences at three sites; the village of Old Hunstanton which had experienced very little hard engineering approaches, the Sea Life Sanctuary in a residential area, and Heachen End which was just in front of a holiday park.

Once they arrived in Hunstanton, students were organised into groups and set off to carry out some geographical coursework techniques. Using specialist geography equipment of ranging poles and clinometers, used to measure the gradient of beaches, the students also carried out cost/benefit analysis of the sea defences currently in place at Hunstanton. This enabled them to identify the hard engineering approaches and to compare their effectiveness with soft engineering approaches to managing the coast.

Students also gathered feedback on the sea defences by conducting a questionnaire with a wide range of people walking along the promenade. The trip enabled students to work as a team and gave them valuable experience of the advantages and disadvantages of managing the coast.

Once all three sites were completed and more than a few ice creams consumed, we headed back to Northampton, a little tired but armed with lots of data to write up projects. Students then spent the next three weeks writing up their projects and analysing their data, before making conclusions about what types of coastal defences were more effective.

**Mr A Litchfield - Head of Geography**





# WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY FESTIVAL JULY 15TH FROM 1.30PM

**LOTS OF GAMES AND ACTIVITIES**  
Tug of War | *Bungee Run* | Gladiator Duel  
Coconut Shy | **Inflatable Penalty Shoot Out**  
Tombola | Doughnut Challenge | **SUMO SUITS**  
*Are you Smarter than a teacher challenge*  
**AND MANY MORE!!**

**ASSAULT COURSE RELAY**

To enter a team collect a form from the Principal's Office

**MUFTI  
£1.50**

Talent Show  
Festival Faces  
Legacy Project  
Mobile Purple Points Store

**Purple Points**

This is your last chance to use your Purple Points!  
"Use them or lose them!"

## FOOD AND DRINK

GALLONES ICE CREAM | Drinks  
Popcorn Stall | Lemonade Stand  
SWEETS | **Cake Stall** | Hot Dogs

The Weston Favell Academy hosted its  
annual Festival on Wednesday July 15th 2015

The event was an opportunity to celebrate the hard work and committed approach consistently demonstrated by students at the academy.

As a result of this, all students were issued with a personalised stamp sheet which gave them the opportunity to spend their purple points on festival activities and/or at the Purple Points store. They thoroughly enjoyed a range of activities and stalls; the running bungee, sumo wrestling, talent show and assault course proving to be very popular!

Students conducted themselves in a very mature manner, demonstrating exemplary standards of behaviour throughout the event. Thank you for supporting the festival.

Mr L Berrill, Festival Organiser



## POSITIVE DISCIPLINE AT WESTON FAVELL ACADEMY REVIEW OF THE YEAR SO FAR!



### PD ANALYSIS - TERM 1 2015/16

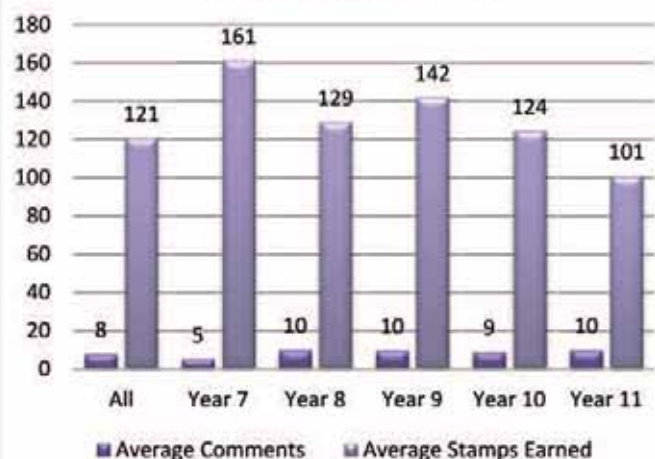


Rewarding our students for all the hard work they are doing is a fundamental part in our Positive Discipline System. Students are given stamps in every aspect of their day at Weston Favell with on average 121 collected by each student in Term 1. They are then able to spend them in the Purple Points store or save for bigger rewards if they prefer.

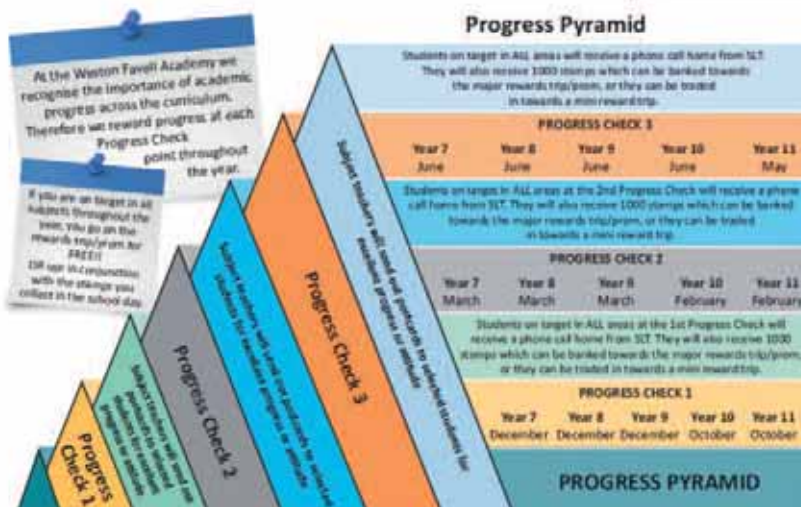
### Most Stamps Winners – Term 1

Student: Matej Puskar 10MMU (365 collected)  
Form: 7SKH (average of 215 each collected)  
Year Group: Year 7 (average 161 each collected)  
Gender: Girls (Average of 126 each collected)

### Average Comments & Stamps Received in Term 1



### Progress Pyramid



36 Year 11 & 25 Year 10 students received the platinum award following the Term 1 Progress Check – 1000 extra Purple Points for being on Target in All of their subjects

All adults in school have the right to praise students, contacting home as and when they choose to do so.





# ANNUAL YEAR 7 TRIP TO GRENDON HALL



"At Grendon, we did lot of activities: team building, low ropes, climbing, and my favourite activity was the swamp because everybody fell in!"

**Mia Barnes**

"I enjoyed going to Grendon as it was a wonderful experience. I loved rock climbing and the swamp. I got really muddy in the swamp and liked watching my friends get muddy. Also I enjoyed teambuilding as we had to zoom through obstacles making sure we didn't fall over otherwise we lost water from the bucket! It was a really exciting trip."

**Saloni Vaghela**

"In my first term of Year 7 at WFA, we were informed of a trip to Grendon Hall. Having already been before, I was very excited and the trip did not disappoint. We started off with rock climbing which was fun like all of the activities. It was a very fun experience for me and I would recommend people to go."

**Riley Wass**

"I enjoyed the swamp and the low ropes challenge both equally. The low ropes were tricky but enjoyable at the same time, and in the swamp, I was speeding ahead watching people get wet and muddy! I loved the trip a lot and thought it was great!"

**Joseph Buswell**

In November, 150 Year 7 students visited Grendon Hall over three days to participate in a range of activities that support with transition and enables students to learn new skills. Students were put into groups with others they do not normally work with to help them make new friends and work together as a team.

Over the course of the three days, the keen Year 7's took part in various teambuilding activities including the climbing wall, low Ropes and the famous SWAMP!!! The students ended up very muddy and wet but enjoyed every minute of it.

**Miss E Howes - Pastoral Leader Y7**





# STUDENT FINANCE RECEPTION

## Planners & Lunch Cards

Replacement planners can be purchased from Student Finance Reception at a cost £2.50 along with lunch card at £5.00 and lanyards at just £1.00.

Please note that Student Finance Reception is not able to offer change to students who wish to top up their account via the on-site Reval machines. It is also not possible for Student Finance Reception to return money from accounts once it has been loaded.



## Online Payments

Parents can now top up their child's cashless catering account up online.

Please contact Mrs Simons for further details at [jsimons@westonfavellacademy.org](mailto:jsimons@westonfavellacademy.org) or extension **5659**.

Some trips can also be paid for online.

Details of which trips this applies to can be found in the individual trip letters.

## Uniform



YEAR 7-9 UNIFORM

If you would like to order new uniform then please follow the link on the academy website

**<http://www.westonfavellacademy.org/uniform/>**  
to purchase items from Price & Buckland.

If you do not have internet access then order forms are available from Finance Reception. Once completed, these should be sent direct to Price & Buckland. Please note that we do not hold uniform stock in the academy and deliveries are received on the second Monday of every month.



YEAR 10-11 UNIFORM



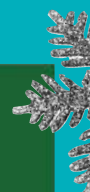
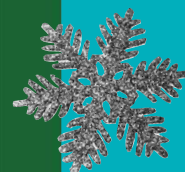
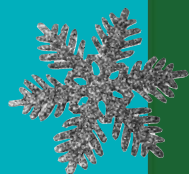
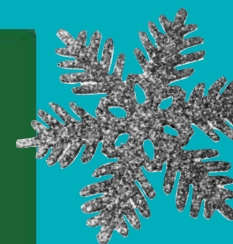
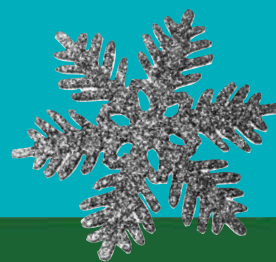
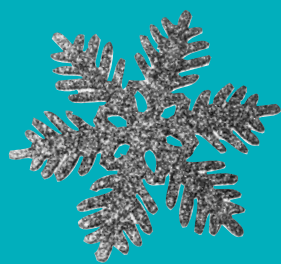
## Music & Singing Lessons

### INTERESTED IN LEARNING A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT or HAVING A SINGING LESSON?

*Spaces are still available for instrumental and vocal lessons.*

If you are interested, please see Mrs Simons for further details and charges. Discounts are available for pupil premium students, GCSE/GCE students and for those students who regularly attend music groups and performances.





WESTON  
FAVELL  
ACADEMY

❄️ *OAP'S  
CHRISTMAS  
PARTY* ❄️



## Santa Claus came to Northampton town!

This year, along with The Nene Valley Rotary Club, I had the privilege of organising the OAP Christmas Party, a long-standing tradition going now in its twenty third year. As Sixth Formers, we addressed students across the academy in assemblies and letters were sent home to generate support in this event; and we were amazed at the response with the huge amount of donations we received. Sixth Formers brought in cakes from home and we managed to raise £125; this money went towards fundamentals such as wrapping paper, raffle prizes and decorations. As a result of all the donations we received, we were able to put together 75 hampers for the OAP's.

On Sunday 6th December, Sixth Form students arrived late morning to decorate and set up tables ready for our guests. At the party, the Year 7 and 8 Choir performed a lovely rendition of 'Silent Night' and Qualib Yussuf, a former WFA student, sang various songs to get our guests up and dancing. Thank you to Greggs who kindly donated sausage rolls, mince pies and cupcakes, and Greencore, who supplied a variety of sandwiches and wraps. Jack Tidd, Year 12, found a hidden talent in being the bingo and raffle number caller! This year our oldest lady was 97 and our oldest man 98.

All of the Sixth Form and Year 11 Health & Social students were absolutely amazing and I am extremely proud of myself and everybody involved for making the day a success.

Thank you to everyone who donated food for hampers, they went down a treat. Special thanks to the Choir and Thomas Sabey in Year 11, along with Miss Lyttle and Mr Meadham for the carols and music, Harry Markham for being our photographer, Gill from Amey for being our caterer and Mrs Thompson for coming along with her Year 11's to support.

An extra special thanks goes to Mrs Whelan for her wealth of knowledge in organising this annual event - we couldn't have done it without you!

**Katie Garner Year 13**

Prowess is a dance club exclusively for gifted and talented students. As the word suggests, the club develops students to be our experts and talented professionals, representing the academy. Essentially Prowess starts with developing their skills and confidence to create showcases to perform within the academy. The aim is to take these students to other academies within the Trust to perform and compete against.

Auditions took place at the beginning of this term and congratulations go to the following students who were selected to join the troop.



**Watch this space to see their progress .....**

**Charlie Barrs  
Kiyra Bignell Lovell  
Maria Pop  
Caitlin Morgan-Shakesby  
Georgina Stones  
Lucy Fowler  
Maddie Duffy  
Macy Spencer  
Erin Cockerill  
Sophie Lane  
Olivia Reeves**



# FUN AT MATILDA / YEAR 11 CHARITY EVENT



In the final week before the October half term, the Performing Arts department took 94 students to watch Matilda on the annual London West End trip. We were so excited to finally be able to secure the tickets, after three long years of trying, that our expectations for the performance were high. We were thrilled when it didn't disappoint; a fantastic show that I cannot recommend highly enough.

The production was a truly colourful blend of mesmerising set design, imaginative use of lighting not to mention the exceptional performances from the main characters. I think Mrs Trunchbull provided the biggest laughs and fears!

A particular highlight for me was the use of physical theatre and the actors' interaction with the set. I hope it highlighted to the students who came on the trip how they can utilise set to show a variety of different locations in their lessons.



"I really enjoyed it. It was the first time I had been to the West End and I thought the actors were really good at showing their characters, especially Mrs Trunchbull." **Samuel Dickens Year 9**

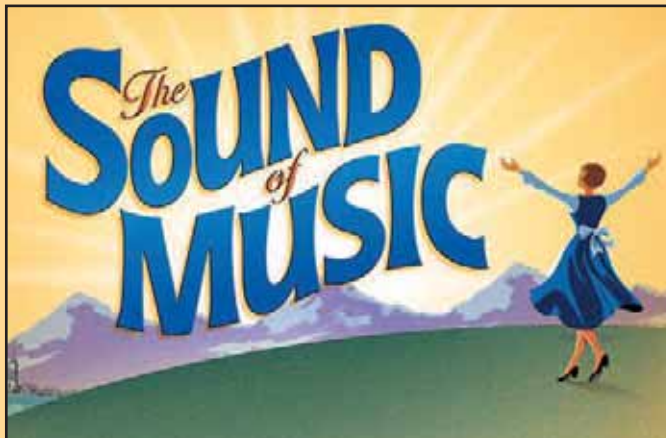
"I could bring back to my drama lesson how the actors stayed in character all throughout the play." **Erin Cockerill Year 7**

"The sets were superb! A completely immersive and engaging experience, thank you to all staff involved, it was fantastic." **Lewis Matthews Year 13**

**Mrs E O'Brien - Head of Performing Art**

As you know, we stage an annual musical for the whole academy to take part in; this year we are working on The Sound of Music. Unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, we have had to change the date to **10th and 11th February 2016**.

We look forward to welcoming you at 6.30pm in the Main Hall to support the students in all their hard work. Tickets will go on sale in January and will be available from Mrs J Simons in the Student Finance Office.



## Year 11 support the British Red Cross

Last term, Year 11 organised a charity day to raise money for the British Red Cross refugee crisis. As well as the usual mufti day, there were stalls running during break and lunch time offering hair and nail pampering, as well as the hugely popular cake and sweet stall!

A huge thank you to all those who took the time to help out; a special thank you to:

Shanay Campbell, Kristiana Antonova, Chioma Okoye and Cara-Leigh Burgess, who ran the hair and nail stall, and Zeerak Janjua, Hasime Gjinaj, Charley Collyer, Zainab Adebisi and Jazz Bilalaj for their enthusiastic cake and sweet stall. Thank you also to those staff and parents who kindly donated cakes to be sold at the charity event.

With generous donations from both staff and students, we raised an amazing

**£2121.56**

which will help to support hundreds of thousands of refugees as they attempt to reach safety.

**Mr D Westell - KS4 Director**  
**Miss S Shirley - Pastoral Leader Y11**





# ANNUAL YEAR 11 PROM 2015

The 2015 Year 11 Prom was a fantastic event that was held at the home of Northampton Rugby, Franklin's Gardens.

This annual Year 11 event was a massive success with over 100 students attending. Staff and students alike came together to celebrate the end of Year 11 and it was a momentous occasion for all involved.



The big awards of the evening were Prom King and Prom Queen; Isaac Abimbola took home the King's Crown and Jaida Noel was crowned Prom Queen.



The Prom reflects a 'rite of passage' for a lot of students and the emotions and positivity of the event were there for all to behold.



With some fantastic music, unbelievable dance moves and some extremely hard work from Miss Kyle, Mr Leighton and Mrs Leighton (Mr Leighton's Mum).



Follow @WestonFavellGAT

WINTER NEWSLETTER : ISSUE 6

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## A GREAT START TO THE FESTIVITIES

As part of our Christmas term calendar, WFA was delighted to host the annual Primary Cluster Carol Concert on the 2nd December. We welcomed a number of primary schools to this well attended event for a lovely evening of musical entertainment.

In a change from the past, the service took a more traditional route this year with each primary school giving a traditional reading followed by a carol.



They were also joined by our own choir who sang an unoccupied version of Silent Night with Lilly Wilkinson from Year 10 delivering a final reading of the evening. All students were very well rehearsed and confidently performed without a single hitch!

A fantastic way to start the festive season.

**Mrs E O'Brien - Head of Performing Arts**

## READING MATTERS

A number of our Sixth Form students recently took part in a Reading Leaders Training course provided by Reading Matters. The training enables them to support younger students in recognising their potential using various strategies associated with reading. Ofsted place a high emphasis on the importance of regular reading for pleasure; our Sixth Form students will be effective role models offering support to younger students to improve reading skills and confidence.



**Year 7 students** said "It's really good fun reading with an older student", "I like reading with the Sixth Former, I feel happy working with him", "It's lots of fun!"

"It's fun, inspiring and rewarding."  
**Zeiny Mohammed Y12 student**

"Rewarding, fulfilling and it teaches you about teaching others." **Jema Marterosyan Y12 student**

"Rewarding to see how they develop."  
**Kyle Gibson Y12 student**





Weston Favell Academy has had the pleasure of working alongside The Outward Bound Trust and the DHL Foundation now for a number of years. This October, a group of Year 9 students were invited to work alongside the DHL mentors on a special self-esteem programme with a number of other schools from Skegness, Wakefield, Liverpool and Derby.

Sophie King, Juliette Frimpong, Kerry O Connor, Taylor Mountford, Alexandra Stana, Lucy Montgomery, Donell Betsy, Connor Waterfield, Aaron Parker, Jamie Holmes and Connor Panter spent the week kayaking, raft building, climbing, abseiling and walking up Welsh mountains as part of a team. The group, along with their counterparts from the other schools, worked together to face a number of challenges including jumping 9 feet off a jetty into a cold estuary and camping out on a chilly mountainside. Despite an exhausting week, all students enjoyed both the challenge and the opportunity to mix with students from all over the country.

**Miss S Kyle**  
**Teacher of Art & ITT Professional Mentor**

**"It was good, I made loads of friends."**  
**Connor Panter**

**"It was a great experience to get out of England."** **Donnell Betsy**

**"It was really fun with different adventures, I really liked camping."** **Juliette Frimpong**

**"It helped me get over my fears."** **Lucy Montgomery**

**DHL**  
**'Look into Logistics'**







The Weston Favell Academy will, for the first time, be participating in a World Challenge expedition with a team of young people embarking on a 14 day project to Uttarakhand.

The trip will involve hiking through the base of the Himalayan Mountains to a small village, and negotiating all of their food and accommodation for the duration of the journey. The team will participate in some project and maintenance work around a school, mixing with the locals before returning to Dehli for some rest and relaxation which will include India's oldest national park, the Corbett Tiger Reserve.

The World Challenge team are still working hard to raise the £39,000 that is needed to fund the trip. On 4th October, the team completed a 23.5 mile walk around Pitsford reservoir which took the team a total of 8 hours to complete! Everyone involved had fun and worked together well, although there were many blisters and aches on the Monday!

The challengers have also organised a mufti day and numerous cake sales to help to raise money for their expedition. On 11th November, a quiz night and raffle took place and you may have spotted them bag packing in Kettering back in December.

Bobby Aldred, Megan Centrella, Rebecca Easton, Amy Foster, Megan Glaholm, Timea Khun, Joshua Maddison, Isha Mistry, Monica Nuttal, Chloe Philpott, Lauren Smith, Adam Steel and Grave Whitford will be joined by Miss Kyle and Miss Hodgkinson on the adventure that departs for Dehli on July the 18th.

Keep up with exciting upcoming events from the team on Twitter [WFA\\_adventure](#)

For anyone who would like to know more or for businesses who would like to sponsor the team, please contact Miss Kyle at [skyle@westonfavellacademy.org](mailto:skyle@westonfavellacademy.org)







During the summer holiday, some members of the Bronze D of E group completed their assessed expedition walk over 2 days and one night from the Grendon area to Emberton Country Park.

Over the 2 days, students walked over 20km to successfully complete their expedition. The main challenge was remaining self-sufficient meaning they had to carry all food and tents with them! The sessions on map reading, using a compass, route cards, camping, cooking and teamwork were certainly put into action, especially taking into account the extra detours, getting lost and finding their way back! An added aim of the expedition was to record the experience to promote the Duke of Edinburgh Award to younger students. They will share this presentation to complete their award over the next term. This year's curriculum group have benefited hugely from D of E; taking part in the award has given them the opportunity to achieve and be part of a rewarding and challenging experience.



**Miss J Hodgkinson, D of E Co-ordinator**

"The expedition was really hard and my feet hurt a lot but I felt proud at the end of the walk; I really enjoyed camping." **Connor Kincaid**

"The expedition was challenging but being with my team made it easier as we all worked together to help each other through." **Georgia Sampson**



## SIXTH FORM UPDATE

The Sixth Form continues to develop and contribute to the life of the academy.

During June and July, Sixth Form students visited two universities and a design company in order to further prepare them for life beyond their academic studies. A visit to Leicester University saw 15 students spend the day in their Biology Department. Students engaged with lecturers and researchers in a genetics project and gained a real insight into the work universities do to initiate and support developments in the real world. In early July, a group of students visited Festo in Northampton. This company develops bionic handling systems that are used in many industries and walks of life. Students were able to build a bionic system and consider the applications it might have for future use. Finally, another group of students spent a day at Warwick University with a PhD lecturer in the Chemistry department. A tour of their amazing research centre, which does much to support the automotive industry, was followed by a practical session in which students used an IR spec to do some chemical analysis.

The Sixth Form continues to work with and support the activities that Human Utopia do throughout the academy. Many of our Sixth Form students are Human Utopia 'heroes' and support the training that the company does with other year groups. The company are so impressed with our Sixth Form students that they have offered the opportunity for students to apply for summer apprenticeships and full time apprenticeships. Successful applicants will support the company deliver activities across the country to many schools and colleges.

**Mr S May - Head of Sixth Form**



# INTERVENTION - FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH!

This academic year has seen the Intervention and Support Team within the academy grow. At both Key Stages 3 and 4, there is now a Director of Achievement monitoring student progress and attainment and providing swift and targeted intervention for those who need it.

We are also proud of our growing team of Learning Mentors, fabulous professionals who provide learning support both in lessons and beyond. In addition we have increased the number of one to one tutors in English and maths who offer a tremendous support to learners across the academy.

This year students have the benefit of a dedicated study space for Key Stage 3 and a separate one for Key Stage 4. The new Independent Learning Centres (ILC) provide wrap-around study support for students before school, during break times, lunch time and after school.

By popular demand, the ILC is now open for extended hours until 5pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We have seen a huge increase in the number of students choosing to drop in and study in their own time and are delighted by the students' appetite for learning – whether it is to complete homework, check their understanding of class topics or revise for major exams – all are welcome!

Also new this year is the Honours System: this celebrates those students who are making great academic progress in their learning in English and mathematics and many other subjects across their curriculum. At each of the three Progress Checks in the year, students can earn a Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze award. Platinum students also earn 1000 reward points!

## KS4 Director of Achievement, Mr Berrill:

"I am in a very fortunate position to guide an excellent intervention team and aspirant students from Key Stage 4. As well as the wrap around support students receive from the intervention team, they are also experiencing a variety of in-house and external events to help motivate them further and help them achieve their academic potential. I would like to encourage all students from Key Stage 4 to attend 20 interventions sessions, attend school more than 95% of the time, and work within the framework of PD. Students hoping to attend the Prom will need to achieve the above criteria for Term 3 and 4. The first 50 students will be entered into a prize draw! Good luck!"

**[lberrill@westonfavellacademy.org](mailto:lberrill@westonfavellacademy.org)**



## KS3 Director of Achievement, Mr Smith:

"Students are responding really positively to the support they now receive and hunger for more! It's exciting to see students at Key Stage 3 inspired to learn, achieve and progress. It's a real privilege to work with the Key Stage 3 team of staff, students and their parents."

**[psmith@westonfavellacademy.org](mailto:psmith@westonfavellacademy.org)**





"IF YOU'RE NOT  
WILLING TO LEARN,  
NO ONE CAN HELP  
YOU.  
IF YOU'RE  
DETERMINED TO  
LEARN, NO ONE CAN  
STOP YOU."



The team are led by the Director of Intervention and Support, Mrs Russell-Jones.  
If you have any questions, please contact: [crussell@westonfavellacademy.org](mailto:crussell@westonfavellacademy.org)

"We offer them  
what they need  
to succeed."

**Mrs D Conroy**  
Learning Mentor

"A brain to pick, an  
ear to listen and a  
push in the right  
direction!"

**Miss A Aktar**  
Learning Mentor

"You get out  
what you  
put in."

**Mrs A Bright**  
Learning Mentor

"I was supporting a Year 8 English grammar lesson with a group of students who were so engaged and enjoying their learning. With enthusiasm one pupil's response to the lesson was, "I am so excited!" When I asked why, he replied, "...because it's hard but I'm learning!" I felt emotional as I looked into this student's eyes and saw what the past 50 minutes meant to him."

**Ms S Wisdom, Learning Mentor**

"It gives me a  
chance to  
revise."

**Josh Linnett Y11**

"It's somewhere  
else you can go  
and get extra  
help."

**Jasmine Starkey Y8**

"It means that you  
can work  
independently doing  
your own thing."

**Hana Ahmed Y8**

"It's quite inspiring as it  
makes me want to try  
harder in lessons to  
reach my full  
potential."

**Brogan Loudon Y11**

"Intervention  
is my way to  
success."

**Helen Bodily Y11**

"It's like a portal  
unleashing a world  
of voluptuous  
achievement."

**Ore Sodunke Y11**



## ASPIRE TO INSPIRE BEFORE YOU EXPIRE

Students from the Weston Favell Academy were invited to Wollaston's School third annual 'Inspire & Aspire Conference'. The conference, held on the 24th June, was aimed at high flying Year 11 students who at the time were predicted A and A\* grades. All students had the opportunity to select from a range of lectures and seminars including Law, Criminology and making a positive first impression.

Sarra Haji, Suman Ahmed, Rebecca Easton, Melanie Bachelier, Laura Hooton, Bradley Aldridge, Peter Ward, Maithilie Sellathurai, Jason Linford, Jema Marterosyan, Hayley Pagano, Lana Greatorex, Kirsty Edge, Lydia Smith and Wednesday Garrett.

The students had an enriching experience and had the opportunity to mix with other like-minded individuals from schools around the country. Melanie Bachelier went on to gain 6A\* and 4A grades in her GCSEs in the summer.

"It was an eye opening experience to what lectures at a university campus might entail, it has made me consider my options in more detail."

**Kirsty Edge**



Year 10 pupils took part in a Study Skills day and Year 11 students participated in an Exam Busters day during Term 1 of this academic year.

Both events were fast-paced, including highly interactive workshops where all students actively engaged and further developed these important study skills, listening, evaluating, planning, researching, self-confidence and exam preparation. Students came away from the event feeling more confident and equipped to reach their aspirational target grades.

I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate both Year 10 and 11 students on their impeccable conduct and excellent contribution throughout the event. They also received outstanding praise from the Positively Mad team.

**Mr L Berrill, KS4 Director of Achievement**





As a part of the MoreLaw innovative mentoring scheme delivered by Browne Jacobson, one of the largest law firms in the Midlands, Year 12 law students were given the opportunity to participate in work experience in conjunction with Browne Jacobson Solicitors. During their work experience, students had a flavour of working in the following areas of law: medical negligence, property, commercial, contract, education, environment, charities, insurance and intellectual property.

Students were given an in-depth look at how a law firm operates and the various demands placed upon the individual team members. They were encouraged to ask as many questions as they wanted in order to facilitate a greater comprehension of each specialism and to give them a realistic view of the profession in general.

One student commented, 'Attending a work experience placement has been a great way for me to broaden my knowledge of the law in a practical working environment. The spectrum of work across different departments such as medical negligence, commercial, property, employment, Human Resources and marketing has widened my appreciation of the practical aspects of being a lawyer'.

In addition, students were given a rare and unique opportunity to visit famous legal buildings and institutions such as the prestigious Royal Courts of Justice (High Court and Court of Appeal), a Barrister's Chamber for a talk from a Barrister, and a tour of the Chambers. They also visited the Inns of Court – Inner Temple in London. During our visit to the Court of Appeal in June, students witnessed the drama outside the Court where an injunction application by Bedfordshire Police, who were attempting to ban the leaders of Britain First from entering Luton for a year, was dismissed and turned down by the Court.

As these trips have been so successful, in January students will be given the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament on a tour of the Palace of Westminster. Amongst other things, they will explore the emergence of representational democracy in the UK and the governance of contemporary Britain.

**Mrs S Edwards, Teacher of A Level Law**





# 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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