

insight

Newsletter - Issue 8
Autumn 2011



We have had a very busy Autumn Term and are looking forward to the holidays and the festivities.

Dear Parent / Carer,

We started in September with some brilliant examination results. We had 100% pass rate post 16 and at GCSE 50% of our students got 5 A* to C including English and Maths. 81% got 5 A* to C. Well done to them all – we have high hopes of our current year 11 and year 13.

Two weeks into the term we got the call from Ofsted and secured a good judgement with many outstanding features. I hope that you all received a copy of the report or have had sight of it on our website. We were really pleased with the result and it just shows how far the Academy has travelled over the last two years. Thank you for all your support without which we could not have achieved this.

“The Harris Academy has been transformed into an effective and reflective organisation which provides a **good quality of education.**” (Ofsted 2011)

The students have been as busy as ever and were keen to have Sports Day included as it missed the Summer edition! Reports too from our very successful “I discover week” with year 8. Our students continue to amaze us with their talents.

Year 11 sat their Maths GCSE in early November and we will have the results at the start of next term. They have also

completed their work experience and we have had a huge number of positive letters from employers telling us how wonderful they were! Well done year 11! Congratulations to other year groups whose successes are included inside.

The building work for the new Primary School called Harris Primary Free School Peckham has started. The school will open in September 2012 with 60 reception aged children. Preference in terms of admission goes to parents / carers of students already attending the Academy. For further details please phone reception on 0207 703 4417 or look on the website www.harrisfreeschoolpeckham.org.uk Please be advised that during the 6 month building programme there will be a restriction in car parking space.

Next term we will be welcoming Ms Thompson who joins us as Vice Principal in charge of Curriculum and Standards. She will be replacing Mr McKeaveney who is moving onto pastures new. We thank him for everything he has done during his time here.

Once again I thank you for all your hard work in ensuring that your sons / daughters are attending and punctual. We have the best punctuality in Southwark!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming your sons / daughters at 8:30am on Monday 9th January 2012. With all best wishes,

Cathy Loxton

2011/2012 TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2011

- **Wednesday 21st December – Friday 6th January 2012 – Christmas Break**

Spring Term 2012

- **Start of Term: Monday 9th January 2012**
- **Friday 10th February – Post 16 Teachers Training Day - Academy closed to students**
- **Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February** Spring half term break
- Students finish Thursday 29th March 2012
- **Friday 30th March – Teachers Training Day - Academy closed to students**
- **Monday 2nd April – Friday 13th April – Easter Break**

Summer Term 2012

- **Start of Term: Monday 16th April 2012**
- **Monday 7th May – May day**
- **Monday 4th June to Friday 8th June – Summer half term break**
- **End of term Thursday 19th July**

Parents Evening 2011/2012 4.30pm - 6.30pm

- **Thursday 19th January 2012:** Year 11
- **Thursday 8th March 2012:** Year 7 and Year 12
- **Thursday 3rd May 2012:** Year 10
- **Thursday 21st June 2012:** Year 9

Other Events

- **Thursday 26th January 2012:** Options Evening for Year 8 parents 4:30-6:30
- **Thursday 5th July 2012:** Raising Attainment for Year 10

SUCCESS FOR HARRIS ACADEMY PECKHAM

This year saw us celebrating our best examination results both at post 16 and GCSE. 50% of our students got 5 A* to C including English and Maths. 81% got 5 A* to C. We had 100% pass

rate of courses at Post 16 with students going onto University, The National Theatre and the London School of Contemporary Dance. To confirm our success Ofsted arrived in the third week of term declaring us Good with Outstanding features. Out of 31 overall judgements we had 12 outstanding, 18 good and 1 satisfactory.



Visit from Australia

On 10th November we were visited by the Hon Tony Abbott MHR, Leader of the Opposition for Australia. He was very interested in finding out more about the Academies programme. He toured the building visiting our specialist facilities of hair dressing and motor vehicle. He popped into a Media lesson where he gave the students some advice on journalism – his previous career. He talked knowledgeably about the Welfare State to the sociology class who responded with enthusiasm to his questions. Tony enjoyed the dance and PE lesson he visited but did not try to compete with the students! He thoroughly enjoyed his visit and thought the Academy and our students were fantastic!



Royal Veterinary College.

As part of the week of iDiscover opportunities

Year 8 students at Harris Peckham were given the opportunity to visit the Royal Veterinary College in Hertfordshire.

The college which is part of the University of London is one of the world's leading specialist veterinary institutions.



The college brings together talented individuals who share a passion for animal health and welfare and many of the students go on to become practising veterinarians, animal scientists, veterinary nurses, and leaders in industry and government.

The year 8 students were given the fantastic opportunity on the day to meet and work alongside such individuals, they were taught techniques used in real life surgery scenarios, and given the



challenge of investigating a virtual cow for diseases and illness. Many of the students were quite relieved to be treating a virtual cow rather than the real thing!

At the end of the day they gave a presentation to the group on what they had learnt, and shared a variety of experiences.

This opportunity has given the students a unique insight into the world of veterinary science; they learned new skills and found the day rewarding and challenging.

Harris Academy Peckham would like to thank the Royal Veterinary College and their staff for a brilliant day and a valuable learning experience for our students.

Gifted and Talented

This year our Gifted and Talented pupils are involved in many extra-curricular activities and courses outside of their normal lessons. Currently three of our Year 10 and 11 students have commenced an extra GCSE, in Astronomy. These students are three of only sixteen chosen from the Southwark area. It is a huge responsibility attending punctually every week on a Saturday and spending time preparing the coursework and material towards the completion of the course. This exciting opportunity allows our students to attend classes at the Royal Observatory and Planetarium in Greenwich. Our students are thoroughly enjoying the Astronomy course. Susy a Year 10 student, attending the course reports: "It has been a good experience; It never feels like I am not good enough; There is a lot of work, of course, but never too much to handle; I look forward to completing the course." Our students are working hard, and this experience will be beneficial to them in their future.



Earlier this month a top doctor from Kings College Hospital visited the Academy, and gave an inspirational talk to our Year 10 and 11 students. He gave a unique insight into life as a doctor at a busy inner city hospital and answered many questions about careers in the health profession. We will be having more guest speakers throughout the year!

Finally, five of our students have been chosen to take part in the Southwark Gifted and Talented Quiz Evening on 23 November at the Globe Academy. They have been preparing and practicing hard. Let's wish them the best of luck!

Ms K Cantrell

“Holloway Jones”

Theatre production, on the main stage.

Synergy theatre project brought their new exciting production of “Holloway Jones,” to Harris Academy Peckham on Monday 31st October. The performance was focused around a young girl who was brought up in care as her mum was in prison. The show blended multi- media, acting and the use of BMX bikes as props to create an interesting and lively production which brought the worlds of the characters alive.



The play shows the difficult choices the main character faces growing up in a world where her own mother forgets how old she is and her boyfriend is leading her into a life of crime. Holloway has to choose between what is right and feeling wanted and supported.



60 Students watched the performance and our year 11 performing arts group took part in a workshop around the plays themes and issues.

It was an enjoyable experience that showed students character based drama they could relate to set in an urban environment with a create performance by the company of young actors.

The workshop leader remembers working with our students last year and was impressed with their energy, enthusiasm and commitment.

“You’re the first group we have worked with who really understood and embraced the term chorus, I am really impressed.”



We hope to continue to develop these links with professional companies and artists so our students get the best possible opportunities to see theatre that is contemporary and new as well as helping them to explore the world of performance and acting.

Ms M Catchpole

Assembly Review

The week beginning 21st November was very nerve wracking. Why? Because Year 10 were presenting their first assembly of the academic year. Aaron, Ihsaan, Sofiane, Sumon, Wesley and I felt a bit unrehearsed even though we had spent hours rehearsing and preparing. We were having a few debates about who should make what points. Some of the members of the group were not confident enough to use the microphone and I was the only person who did not use it. The audience were really engaged after a few minutes, and we managed to convey our points successfully. Students were really interested in how the right to vote being extended to 16 year olds would affect them in the future, and how to sign the online petition.

The second assembly was even more successful. We were even more organised, but still experienced the nerves! This we hope to overcome through practice. I was still the only one speaking without the microphone, but I felt the confidence grow within the group. We also managed to get the audience more involved in the quiz. Year 9s participated even more enthusiastically than Year 10 students, and we look forward to presenting to the other year groups during the rest of the week. Who knows, maybe we will make some students develop an interest in politics and become the next Obama.

Jack Coleman

Year 7

Welcome to all the Year 7 students to the Harris Academy Peckham. The Year 7 students have made an outstanding start to the Academic Year. All students have completed their CATS tests and they have settled well into the daily routine of the Academy. We have introduced a programme called Renaissance reading to encourage students to read more frequently and this will also assist each student in improving their literacy skills. All the year 7 students work on the programme twice a week and I would like all students to read at least 1 short story per week. Please encourage your child to read at home for at least 30 minutes a day where you as a parent could also assist your child with difficult words and understanding of what they are reading.



Congratulations to all the Year 7 students for being awarded the Year Team trophies for the Most Punctual Year group as well as having the Best Attendance as a year group. The attendance percentage for the Year 7 is 97.83%. Keep it up Year 7's.

We also have students who have achieved awards, trophies and certificates for their participation in various Extra- curricular activities.



Congratulations to Shelby Szmidt for winning the Academy Poetry Competition. The competition was run across the Academy during the National Poetry Week. Shelby won a WH Smith voucher.

Congratulations to Kenny Collins for participating in the South London Youth Games Tag Rugby competition. He was awarded the trophy for his team winning the Junior event. Kenny also participated in the London Tag Event.

Kristian Gjekaj plays football for Bethwin Football Club. He has been playing for this club for over a year. He has recently been awarded the trophy for being the top goal scorer for his club . Congratulations Kristian.



I would also like to congratulate Baboucar Carayol for his outstanding achievements in Taekwondo. Baboucar has only been participating in Taekwondo for the past 6 months and he has already participated in various competitions where he has obtained a Gold, a Silver and a Bronze medal. Baboucar has excelled so much due to his talents that he has been selected to participate in international competition scheduled for next year. Congratulations Baboucar and good luck in your next competition.



Congratulations to Israel Villalobos Vargas for being scouted by Fulham football club. He is at present training with their youth Team.

We would like to encourage all the Year 7 students to participate in any of the after school clubs to enhance their social and teamwork skills. We have an English after school club run Ms Harnetty every Monday from 3:30-4:30pm and they work on a different topic each week in HF5. On a Wednesday Mr McEwan runs a Maths class for students also from 3:30-4:30pm in BS5.

Mr D Faure
Director of Learning – Year 7

PERFORMING ARTS: DANCE DEPARTMENT



This Academic year has started and our connection with the Royal Opera House continues to develop and provide inimitable opportunities for the students and families of Harris Peckham. On Saturday 1st October 2011 a small group enjoyed the spectacular Ballet and Opera performance.



Student Comments:

Danisha Smith Year 11: It was a very good experience. I had never watched a Ballet or an Opera before so it was a wonderful thing to watch , although it wasn't my style, I still enjoyed it and I am thankful for the great opportunity. Tania Torao Year 11: I enjoyed the ballet performance, I had never watched one before, I used to be closed minded towards ballet but watching that performance has helped me change my mind.

The Performing Arts Department at Peckham has joined forces with the Mouse Trap Organisation. Due to this we are able to offer our students unique opportunities. 'Some Like It Hip Hop' a new street dance theatre production by ZooNation premiered in the Peacock Theatre, London, Holborn, WC2. All students doing Performing Arts at key stage 4 & 5 were given the opportunity to go on 20th October 2011. A handful of year 8 students were invited due to the hard work and dedication they have shown in their dance lessons. The production was sensational.

Student Comments:

Tamar Lewis Year 10: Some Like It Hip Hop is an outstanding high-class performance that has

inspired me to achieve. It made me want to get up dance with them. It had a wide variation of Hip-Hop styles like popping, Locking, Wacking and House. It was great!

Danisha Smith Year 11: Some Like it Hip Hop' was one of the best performances I have ever seen. The story was clear and it engaged with the audience. I would definitely go and see it again.

Tania Torao Year 11: Some Like It Hip Hop was an outstanding performance to watch because it was very inspiring.



We are only at the start of this academic year and already there are many things in the pipe line.....

•Inadmissible Evidence' Donmar Theatre'
Thursday 10th November 2011

•Hamlet' Young Vic Theatre' Thursday 17th
November 2011

• War Horse' New London Theatre' Tuesday 22nd
November 2011

• Performance Company 'Village Hall' Friday 25th
November 2011

•Hamlet Workshop' Young Vic Theatre Tuesday
6th November 2011

The Harris Federation Day of Dance is being held at Peckham Academy on Friday 25th October 2011. Selected Harris students will be given the opportunity to work with professional dancers and experience dance styles such as Reggae, Street / Urban and Contemporary Dance. Again this is a unique opportunity only offered to Harris Academy students. Feedback from participating students will be in the next newsletter.

Mrs R Robinson

Year 8 - Making the Effort

I might not be able to change the world but, I can make the effort by, changing first "Myself".

Change Your World

You cannot change the world,
but you can present the world with one improved
person -
Yourself.

You can go to work on yourself to make yourself
into the kind of person you admire and respect.
You can become a role model and set a standard
for others.

You can control and discipline yourself to resist
acting
or speaking in a negative way
toward anyone for any reason.

You can insist upon always doing things the loving
way,

Rather than the hurtful way.

By doing these things each day,
you can continue on your journey

toward becoming an exceptional human being.

The Year 8s have been taking turn at being
Receptionists for a day. They have been working
well at greeting visitors and completing any tasks
they have been given. Well done!

The parents evening of 17 November 2011 was
a real success as we managed to achieve above
80% attendance. The Assembly Hall was a hub of
activity as the parents made their way to talk with
as many teachers as possible to hear how well or
the progress their students are making. We greatly
appreciate the effort made by the parents and all the
work put in by tutors and others who helped to make
the evening the success it was. Thank you also for
completing our questionnaire.

We are looking forward to a good break but our
focus is on improving the attitude of our students to
ensure that they make the effort to make changes to
the world, but for them to realise that these changes
start with them. They are well on their way to
becoming "Exceptional Human Beings".

Ms S King
Director of Learning – Year 8

Harris Academy Post 16

Our Post 16 provides a challenging yet enjoyable
academic experience, which aims to give the best
possible preparation for entry to university and
employment. We also encourage students to
develop their interests and personal qualities, in
line with the Academy's established all-inclusive

approach to education.

This family ethos has become one of the hallmarks
of Harris Academy Peckham Post 16 and we nurture
it through small tutor groups and teaching classes.
The main characteristic of our Post 16 is the close,
friendly yet respectful relationships which are
formed between staff and students. Our teachers
are very well qualified and they make use of tried
and tested teaching approaches with the cutting-
edge technology.

This year we are offering a wide range of highly
successful academic and vocational courses. The
range of courses on offer has been carefully selected
in order to meet the needs of our students. These
include A' levels, BTEC Level 2 and 3 (National
and Diploma courses) and specialist industry
standard vocational courses in Motor mechanics
and Hairdressing. We also have an excellent
record of student progression in to apprenticeships,
employment, further and higher education.

Last year our students achieved the best examination
results we have had for the Academy in Post 16.
Hence, compared to previous years more of our
students progress onto Higher Education and got
their first choice university. Student destinations
include all types of universities and colleges across
the country. Former Peckham Post 16 students can
be found studying for degrees across the United
Kingdom and beyond i.e. Medicine and Biomedical
Sciences at St. Georges University of London;
Mechanical Engineering at Manchester University
and Electrical; Digital Media Production at Bristol
University, English at Goldsmiths College University
of London and Electronic Engineering at University
of Glamorgan.

Our Post 16 students also enjoy a wide range of
extra-curricular activities. We are rightly known as a
strong sporting Academy, with some superb facilities
such as our floodlit all-weather pitch and sports hall,
but Peckham Academy offers much more through
our excellent Performing Art, Music, Art and Drama
departments and our many clubs and societies in
Post 16.

If you are interested in being part of this rising
successful Post 16 which provides wide choice,
close support, excellent advice and guidance along
with a wide range of extra-curricular and social
activities, then Post 16 at the Harris Academy
Peckham is for you.

Mr A Koiki
Assistant Vice Principal, Post 16

Year 9

A new academic year, new challenges for year 9. In Science students have been completing their Key Stage 3 studies and sitting exams to ascertain their current grades and levels. In other subjects, students have already embarked on the Key Stage 4 syllabus.

100% attendance

Yr 9 have done fantastically well in attending 100% - the following students have given themselves the best start and are making the most of their education by ensuring they are here, every day...

Soumeya Abubakar, Damilola Adeagbo-Bailey, Funda Djemal, Abdi Idris, Jordan McDonald, Mariella Mide-Madariola, Emeka Onwochei, Yemisi Sowemimo, Shueeb Da'ud Abdullahi, Kanyin Adefolaju, Quadri Agbalaya-Giwa, Gulsun Akdeniz, Ibrahim Ali, Adetoun Bakare, Mohamed Nur Biye, Deborah Onile, Kishan Parmar, Adam West, Thanvir Abdin, Sesi Agbemabiase, Henrietta Amileke, Tarick Anderson, Mohummad Baluch, Kyle Henry-May, Elijah Ilo, Artan Maliqi, Wale Oladipupo, Shavarne Rhule, Linh Vu, Ircelma Afonso Quibelo, Louie Andreas, Helen Bohorquez Cueva, Alexander Domingos, Anjel Dominique, Raveena Francis, Peter Gabriel, Kenneth Gibbs, Anisul Hoque, Keiron McKay, Danny Oduwole, Daniel Pitter, Christopher Ede Senoga, Tracey Adjei, Bryand Angbadjili Mel, Ikelengue Bokoka-Piresdossantos, Fatim Camara, Shantel Gooden, Tia Harding, Jerome Hartman, Shenise May, Abel Mirga, Adebambo Olumuyiwa, Kya Ouattara, Ezra Porter, Daniel Adeogun, David De-Souza, Courtney Henderson, Elisha Ilo, Phillips Oke, Miguel Oliveira, Babatunde Saka, Nam Mai Tran, Simon Yang,

...a huge list, a huge effort. Well done.

Punctuality has also witnessed a great turn around, with students vying to get stamps in their planners for turning up before 8.20AM. This allows them to be first into lunch as a reward for their positive approach. In future, the intention is that stamps will be given to those who have completed writing their homeworks for the week, as well as meeting the 8.20AM deadline, in the hope that this will encourage the proper use of the planner and greater awareness of the importance of meeting deadlines.

Progress

Those listed below have made a brilliant start to their Year 9 course, and already they are setting the pace for the rest of the cohort to keep up. So far we only have information in English and Mathematics, and they are keeping up with expectations:

David De-Souza, 9EBU
Sohaib Musa, 9EBU
Soumeya Abubakar, 9FDE
Jiefu Fan, 9FDE
Abdi Idris, 9FDE
Jordan McDonald, 9FDE
Jermin Wharton, 9FDE
Gulsun Akdeniz, 9OCK
Joshua Howard, 9OCK
Claudia Leca, 9OCK
Amal Kerbib, 9PLA
Adewale Oladipupo, 9PLA
Kemisha Ximines, 9PLA
Alexander Domingos, 9SAC
Assia Dumbuya, 9SAC
Mohamed Mansary, 9SAC
Courtney Wiltshire, 9SAC
Tracey Adjei, 9TMR
Ikelengue Bokoka-Piresdossantos, 9TMR
Shenise May, 9TMR
Simran Singh, 9TMR

...now it's up to the rest to step up and match their effort and to achieve similar success in their progress.

I am looking forward to receiving the next set of data for the year group, which will involve all the subjects for the whole of this term. I am sure that the success of Year 9 students will continue to shine through.

I wish everyone a restful and productive holiday, and hope that the New Year brings all that you wish for.

Mr R Gurney
Director of Learning – Year 9

Playwriting with the Royal Court. Drama Department

The famous Royal Court theatre is working with students here at the academy in a 6 week long playwriting workshop. The workshop is open to all students from year 9 -11 that have a keen interest in combining drama with English. The theatre group have worked with us in the past and were keen to work with us again as they have been impressed with our students and the organisation of the department.



In the 6 week long course students read sections of different plays written by the playwright Bola Agbaje and then wrote sections of dialogue off script to convey character and explore scene development. Students are gaining a real insight into character progression and how they can evolve and change, and the art of writing for performance. We are currently in week 2 and are seeing some promising



work from those that are involved.

Some of the students said....

"I am finding the workshops really interesting and enjoyable. I like English so it was a dream come true to merge my English skills with drama. The people from the Royal court Theatre are very nice and easy to work with; they are friendly and are giving me

some good advice."

Connor Long-Johnson- year 11

"The playwriting workshop is an opportunity for me to write my own plays in the future. I like acting because I get to have the opportunity to be somebody I never thought I could be I get to be in somebody else's shoes. I know the workshop will help me write plays in the future about my inspirations. "

Sarah Onile- year 11

Bola the writer and leader of the workshop said. "The group is amazing and talented. They inspire me to keep writing and remind me of why I became a writer in the first place. I grew up in Peckham and have a love for the people and the area. It is great to come back and work with enthusiastic young people."

I hope the students get a lot out of the workshop and continue to be creative combining their love and passion of drama with their literary skills. The work continues.

Ms M Catchpole

Christmas Card Design Winner



This card was produced by Harris Academy Peckham from an original design by Nikola Wereszcynska and Ghafra Mohammad PHOTOSHOP treatment by Nikola Wereszcynska [10RPU]

The Great Egg Race.

In the summer term a group of students were selected to represent Harris Academy Peckham in a very special event which takes place annually at Harris Crystal Palace.

The event involved a mixture of food technology, engineering, and arts and crafts.

The theme of day was based around Lewis Carroll's tale of 'Alice in Wonderland'.



The students were split into three groups and each tasked with a project to be brought together at the end of the day at the 'mad hatter's tea party'.

The first group were given the job of making the food and refreshments, and given creative control over the menu, the second group were tasked with putting together the 'maddest hat' to be worn at the party, and the third group given the task of making



a specialised croquet stick which was able to combat the very tricky and difficult assault course.

The students all did a fantastic job and there was some serious competition from the other academies with some really good examples of engineering creativity, and cuisine.

All groups were judged by the principal in a taste test, for the food, a round of croquet, and marks for

the hat design. Although the students at Peckham made a valiant effort we were beaten and managed a 4th place finish. The students were disappointed but had a great day.

Harris Academy students and staff would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to Harris Crystal Palace for their hospitality and the opportunity to take part in such a fantastic event.

We look forward to winning it next time round!

As you like it was just as we like it!

Lauren Pemberton-Nelson

On Wednesday, 2nd November, I was a member of a cast of 26 students from year 9, 10 and 11 who performed As You Like It at the Broadway Theatre, Catford.

We took part in an event called the Shakespeare Schools Festival. This is where schools nationwide condense a William Shakespeare play into half an hour and perform at professional theatres. They work with the National Youth Theatre, who provides cast workshops.

We had six weeks of rehearsals to prepare for our play. Although this may seem like a lot of time, it was hard to get everything rehearsed. Throughout the process, we went through a couple of changes, such as losing actors so we had to work extra hard to compensate. There were rehearsals on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays afterschool, but it was hard for everyone to come because some cast members were busy on different days. Along with that, we also had Saturday rehearsals at school to practice, as well as the whole day on the Monday before the performance.

On the day of the performance, we rehearsed in the morning at school, then left to go to the theatre. Once we were at the theatre, we practiced our lines and rehearsed once more. When it came to the time of the performance, I wasn't nervous; I was just excited! I thought that the play went really well and our hard work paid off. The audience's reaction showed us that they enjoyed the play and found it funny.

Afterwards, the festival organiser made a special effort to contact us, praising the play by saying: "it was one of the best versions of the play I have ever seen - funny, vibrant and charming... The

students totally made it their own, bringing a fresh and modern attitude to Shakespeare's language."

Well done to the brilliant cast:

Wilson Nogueira, Nadine Johnson, Susy Ajayi, Gareth Boye-Campbell, Mariam Adeniran, Lashae Jeffrey, Brittiny Quartey-Papafio, Joshua Bello, Prince Antwi, Reuben Asante-Mathieson, Kenneth Seroga, Gafar Fashola, Muizz Almaruf, Mariam Aderibigbe, Rhea Jacques, Tiffany Thomas, Mohnisha Ahuja, Lisa Magombedze, Tarley Wiltshire, Sarah Onile, Kelcy Magombedze, Toriann Ceres-Francis, Heidi Thompson and Jessica Nguyen.

And thank you to the wonderful director, Ms Nutbeam and Mr Osbourne.

Letter from PRENDERGAST Ladywell Fields College Specialist Arts College

Dear Ms. Loxton,

I am writing to you about your student's performance of 'As You Like It' which I was lucky enough to see on Wednesday 2nd November. I wanted to let you know just how fantastic I thought it was - from beginning to end I thoroughly enjoyed every moment. Please pass my congratulations onto Kathryn and your wonderful students - I'm sure you are very proud!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Mel Whitfield
Headteacher



Year Ten The Start Of A New Era

Year ten students have now embarked on another major stage in the development of their school life and indeed the rest of their lives. I speak of 'options' where students get to choose the subject they would like to study during the key stage four phase of their lives at the Academy. The core subjects (Mathematics, English, Science, and MFL) are compulsory for all students and are vital for any career path chosen. In addition to these subjects

each student was allowed to choose two academic subjects such as History, Business Studies, Media Studies etc. Each student also had the opportunity to choose a vocational course such as Engineering, Motor Vehicle etc. The aim of the Academy is to help mould all its students into rounded individuals who are able to make a significant contribution to the development of our great nation and the wider world. With this in mind we offer this wide range of options so students are able to select the subjects that best meet their needs.

As a part of our quest to tailor the curriculum to meeting the individual need of each student we have already entered over 25% of our students for their ICT GCSEs and another 25% have already sat their Citizenship GCSE exams. At the moment there is another 30% of students preparing to sit their English GCSE early and a further 53 students on an accelerated programme in preparation for their Mathematics at the end of year 10 which would be a full year early. If these students are successful they will then have the opportunity to study another Mathematics course hence having the chance to leave the Academy with two qualifications in the subject.

The Teens and toddlers programme is another of the initiatives the Academy has undertaken to assure its students achieves the qualifications they require to progress in their chosen career path. This programme allows students to study the intricate details of childcare and give them a chance to get the hands-on experience working in a nursery environment. On the completion of this course these students will be awarded with certifications allowing them to work in any nursery in England. The course has been offered to twelve of our year ten students, 11 girls and 1 boy, who are all excelling and enjoying themselves while attaining the qualification required to progress in their chosen future pathway.

As many studies have shown year ten is one of the most critical year in the lives of secondary school students. It is the make or break year in the rest of their lives and as the Director of Learning for year ten I'm pleased with the way the students of this cohort have settled into KS4 and the pursuit of their options. Many of the students have seemed to mature overnight as they make this transition and now exhibit a new level of maturity which I'm sure will be manifested in their final results.

Mr M Waugh
Director of Learning – Year 10

iDISCOVER

In March this year the iDiscover project was introduced to Year 8 students by the coordinators from the funding body NESTA.

The purpose of the programme was to encourage our students to develop their skills of innovation, to unlock their ability to rise to challenges and to think in new ways.

In order to facilitate students to access the programme, Ms Eleanor Smith worked closely with Mr Howarth in creating an intricate timetable to cover a whole week of experiences, both in-school and off-site. There were 18 Experiences from which to choose – each with a cost ranging from £22 for the cheapest experience, up to £200 for the most expensive. The total budget available for each student was £200.

Choice

One of the key concepts for the iDiscover team was that students make their own choices of experiences in which to participate, and how to spend their £200. This meant that everybody had to balance whether to spend in one big splash, appending everything on one 3-day experience, or to spread their buying across the week, taking up as many experiences as possible. Pupils also had to factor in that all of the experiences were 'fastest-finger-first', therefore if they were not quick enough, they had to choose an alternative – and therefore change their budget strategy.



OUTCOME

On the week of the programme, students and supporting staff followed the intricate timetables organised by Mr Howarth and Ms Smith – 140 students going on visits, with accompanying staff, or attending on-site experiences and at times following a collapsed timetable to accommodate those year 8 pupils not booked in for that day – a huge undertaking.

From the outset the positive feedback for staff and students alike was overwhelming – the wealth of experiences encouraging students to push themselves further than they had thought possible.

On Tuesday 27th September, 4 volunteers represented Harris Academy Peckham at a Celebration Event hosted at the NESTA headquarters in Plough Place. This involved presenting their experiences in association with pupils from the other 7 participating Academies in an innovative and exciting production to an audience of dignitaries from the Harris Federation, from CEO Mr Moynihan, Headteachers and Principals as well as representatives from the many companies that had hosted the experiences.



Raveena Francis, Julia Nita, Jiefu Fan and Elijah Ilo represented Harris Academy Peckham in this exciting and thought provoking presentation, reflecting the ethos behind the iDiscover programme of innovation and adaptability.

The evening was an enormous success, and we thank all those who had a hand in the organising, timetabling, covering of lessons and in supporting the extraordinary experiences that were made available to our students. Thanks are also due to the parents of our students, for allowing them to go on visits off-site, and in one case a 3-day trip to Broadwater in Somerset.

Mr R Gurney

House of Lords

The key event for last half term at Harris Academy Peckham was the celebration of the Student Commissioner's Publication, 'A New Design for Learning'. We took 10 students to the Cholomodeley Rooms at the House of Lords on Wednesday 5th October.

We asked key students to say a few words regarding their experience of the commission. This was such a prestigious event and it allowed our students the opportunity to speak at The House of Lords.

The speech given by Noura Sorroukh and Nadine Johnson was outstanding. It was so effective and emotive that Lord Harris sent a copy of it to the Prime Minister David Cameron.

They spoke with such passion about the opportunities they have had here at HAP and how this would help them with the skills needed in their future life.

Ms Loxton (Principal) and Mr Osborne (Assistant Vice Principal) were both very impressed and proud of the students and their commitment to their own learning.

Here is a copy of their speech for your enjoyment.

I can estimate that at least 50% of you sitting here are wondering what on earth students from Peckham are doing at a formal conference in the House of Lords. Some of you are probably even surprised that we communicate effectively using standard English.

Often, when people hear the work, 'Peckham', they immediately assume negative connotations. But why is this?

Every time we open a newspaper or watch news relating to Peckham, we are faced with words such as 'underclass', 'rebels', 'murder' and even, 'deprived area'.

The media had stripped Peckham of its voice. However, we were given our voices back by a scheme set up by my school, Harris Academy at Peckham, to ensure that every student's opinion mattered; that every opinion was taken into account and every opinion was heard.

Student Voice has given us the opportunity to project our say in the school curriculum. From this there have been a number of successful changes in and around the school such as study days, an idea thought of by Year 11 s, to be taught a core subject for an entire day in preparation for GCSEs; the idea to involve the use of presentations, multi-media, self-assessment marking, Drama and group work into lessons for a more effective approach to learning.

Not only does Student Voice enable us to have our

opinions voiced, it is also a system which has our educational needs at heart and will stop at nothing to ensure we are all achieving to the best of our ability.

The scheme acknowledges that not all students work at the same ability and that some may have more difficulties than others which is why students in Key Stage Four were set into form groups with a teacher who specialises in the subject they struggle in, but that is not all

The Gifted and Talented pathway, not just based on academic subjects, pushed students towards achievement in all subjects and meets the needs of all talents.

Vivos Rocket

This term has seen a hike in the number of Vivo miles that have been awarded to students at Harris Peckham. The increase compared to previous terms is more than 30%. Improvements in students' achievement, effort and progress have led to more teachers having to reward more and more students, which is always a pleasure. As well as this improvements in attendance and punctuality to school have also been rewarded through vivos. I recently met with representatives from Vivomiles, who said that rarely have they seen such a rapid increase in the number of vivo miles a school uses rewarding their students, which indicates that things are improving at an astonishing rate here at Harris Academy Peckham.

Vivo Miles have also launched a facility which enables parents to log in and see how their children are being rewarded, allowing parents to monitor their child's successes. Details of this will be on the academy website from next week, but if you would like information sooner please contact me on k.browne@harrispeckham.org.uk.

Mr. Browne
Assistant Vice Principal



NEWSLETTER

ARTICLE PE DEPT

NOV 2011

The Physical Education department has started the new academic year offering our students the opportunity to involve themselves in a range of different activities. These activities are open to all year groups of either gender. At present we have on offer basketball which is being delivered by coach Sterling who is keen to open up the club to all students. Some may take the view that this club is only open to established players. I ASSURE YOU THIS IS NOT THE CASE! What is required is enthusiasm and being prepared to work hard. The high standards achieved by those participating do not come about solely due to natural ability but through hard work, receiving advice and acting on it! The club has achieved national honours when competing in competitions and is probably the most successful school basketball club in, not only South London, but London and the South East of England!

If this appeals to you then come along to any session if only to watch. What you will see is a group of dedicated athletes who are focussed and work hard. Do not feel intimidated by the high standards on view! You too can reach those heights and in turn make a contribution to this successful after school club! There are already newcomers joining and benefiting from the outstanding coaching which is on offer. The big plus is? It is FREE OF CHARGE! TAKE THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY UP!

Club day's and times when activities take place;

MON- Lunch –time: 12:35-2:25.

After-school:3:10-6:30.

TUE-Breakfast club: 7:00-8:20.

Lunch: 12:35-2:25.

After school: 3:10-6:30.

WED-Breakfast club: 7:00-8:20.

After school: 3:10-6:20.

THUR-Breakfast club: 7:00-8:20.

Lunch: 12:35-2:25.

FRI-Lunch: 12:35-2:25.

After school: 3:10-6:30.

SATURDAY AND SCHOOL HOLIDAY TRAINING CAMPS (sessions/competitions).

Also on offer, as an after school activity, is football coaching. This is open to years 7, 8 and 9 boys.

Soon we will be able to offer the same opportunities to the girls as we will be providing our own girls football coach. At present training takes place on Tuesdays for year's 7 and 8 and Wednesdays for year 9. If this proves to be successful it is intended that teams will be entered into various league and cup competitions.

The year 9 training evening has been successful and as a result they have been entered into a daylong 7-a-side football competition at Haberdasher Aske's school. I am sure you will all wish them luck for the competition and ask how they performed on their return.

As a reward for working hard and producing good quality work for their BTEC sport exam course, a group of students in year 11 went on a visit to the Emirates stadium to watch a carling cup match, Arsenal v's Bolton wanderers, courtesy of Lord Harris. A great evening of exciting football which saw Arsenal being 1-0 down and coming back to eventually win the game 2-1 with two spectacular second half goals!

However with all the positive activities taking place, the PE department, would like to see more female students either making individual suggestions or waiting until you are spoken to in assembly re: AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES about what you would like offered. This could mean dance, aerobics, basketball, football, badminton, volleyball, short tennis? You tell us!

Next May, the school is organising a trip to a sailing centre on the Isle of White. The trip is looking to target year 9. This is a fantastic chance for students who would like to take the opportunity to experience sailing, kayaking and other water sports to enjoy this new activity and look to build upon or develop leadership qualities. As the trip will not cost our students anything, therefore free, it is intended that the group will be chosen on merit! Meaning that if you have shown real progress in school, by displaying consistent positive behaviour, progress, improved attitude to school work, a change in attitude towards school and staff, this could mean that you are chosen to attend the trip. The trip is for 4-nights and includes transport (coach and ferry), accommodation, food and the use of all state of the art equipment. So here's your chance!

Mr B Kempka
Head of PE

Year 11

Work Experience

Before I start I want to say a BIG THANK YOU to Mrs Tomlinson for all her hard work and long hours spend on the WEX program.

Year 11, you completed two weeks of Work experience which was invaluable to you as a student and gave you a taste of what working life is like. For some of you it gave some clarity about what kind of job you can see yourself doing in the future. Regardless of whether it's a full-time job or a two-week work placement, I believe that it is vital that you get real value from what is often your first experience of the workplace. For some the value may come from simply learning the importance of turning up on time, while for others it will be the opportunity to gain recognised, transferable qualifications such as an Apprenticeship in hospitality or working on the maternity ward.

Where do we go from here? (3 steps)

1. Reviewing your work experience

After completing your placement, make sure you don't forget what you've learnt. Ideally, you should have had a meeting with your line manager to review your placement - what have you both learnt, what went well/ badly, etc. Spend time reflecting on your experience to identify key learning points and achievements. What have you learnt that will help you in future?

2. Keeping In Touch With Your Host Organisation

This is always worthwhile. You could write to thank them for their support. If you are keen to work for this organisation after you graduate, tell them this - they may be able to let you know about suitable jobs. Keeping in touch with your line manager can ensure they remember you if future jobs arise. It is also gratifying and interesting for them to find out your progress. Find out if they'd be happy to provide you with a reference for future applications.

3. Returning To Academic Study

This can be difficult, particularly after a long period away. You may have to get used to motivating yourself and managing your free time. Try to use what you've learnt from your placement and think about how your studies will be used in future work. Last but not least, after you have finished your work experience, don't forget to send a follow-up email to say thank you and to let them know that you'd like them to bear you in mind for any future

opportunities. Students have been encouraged to gain work experience to help ensure they find a job during the recession.

In a poll for the Department for Work and Pension, seven in 10 businesses said they are more likely to hire someone who has spent time in their organisation and nearly half said work experience completed elsewhere is an asset.

Hope you all enjoyed the experience and that you gained something from it.

GCSE exams

Good luck to everyone who sat their GCSE Maths exams. I hope the results reflect all the hard work you've put into your preparations. The next round of Mock exams are upon us, make sure you pencil the 5th, 6th and 7th December into your diaries (Monday 5th English mock exam, Tuesday 6th Option A and Option C, Wednesday 7th Science exam). It is all about planning and preparation, make sure you complete homework and coursework on time, and join up with at least one revision club.

Good luck to all of Year 11 and I hope you all get offered a place at your first choice.

Mr .Van Rooyen
Director of Learning – Year 11



Hair Dressing Services

Styling

Wet Cut -From £4.00

Wash & Blow Dry -From £7.00

Cut & Blow Dry -From £10.00

Restyle -From £12.00

Shampoo And Set - £7.00

Hair Up (Special Occasion) -From £10

**Contact : 0207 358 4989 Please
call to make your appointment**

Academy Football

After taking me through a rollercoaster of emotions in a fantastic game off football we beat Bishop Thomas Grant 7-5 after coming back from 4-0 down.

Goals from Reece Cave, Gbolhan Noble, Chandon Gardner, Kai London, Tyreek Mcleod, have now pushed us through to the quarter finals of the South London Schools Cup!

As mentioned these students have been dedicated to training weekly since the start of the year and have been working extremely hard to get here, on the day there sportsmanship, behaviour and conduct on and off the pitch was exemplary and were a real credit to themselves and the Academy.

They showed great character to come from behind, and win the game

They have really boosted the profile of our Academy Football program and we hope to go from strength to strength.

Special thanks to Steve Sekiziyivu, Michael, PE, and other staff who have supported the program and make it possible for our students to compete and represent the Academy.



Many thanks and well done Peckham! Let's hope we can go all the way!

Mr V Lee

Sports Day 2011 Article Peckham Dancers Steal the show at Federation Sports Day

The annual Federation Sports day at Crystal Palace took place on Tuesday 5th July 2011, and was organized by the Sports Partnership based at HGAED. The weather held up and the students of Peckham were true ambassadors for the school. Peckham was ranked overall 5th place when the final results came in.

As usual an interesting programme was made for the day filled with individual events, cheerleading and a Peckham dance performances that rocked the crowd. The stadium was buzzing with excitement as every Harris Academy was present. The day consisted of a range both track and field events. The students competing in the following activities; sprinting short and long distance, hurdling, relays, long jump, triple jump, high jump, discus, javelin, and shot putt.

Once everyone had arrived, the athletes taking part in different events staged a march down the track in their school teams. The students cheered and supported their peers throughout the event proudly. The first item on the programme after the opening ceremony was the sprinting section which included the 100, 200, and 400 metre races. The sprinting segment excited the crowd and was great fun to watch. Peckham students claimed many medals from these events.

One highlight of the day was the staff relay. Mr Walsh tried his hardest to bring the trophy home as we watched him make up lost ground. For the second year running Peckham dance and cheerleading performance rocked the crowd with their moves and exciting chorography. The day was well organised and thoroughly enjoyed by all and I know the students are looking forward to the rematch next year.



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Peckham

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