

World Book Day

Ms K Barker

On Friday 4 March a group of students celebrated World Book Day by attending a workshop with Puneet Bhandal, author of the Bollywood series of books. Puneet introduced the students to Bollywood and spoke about her career as a film journalist. The students were able to ask her lots of questions and then had the opportunity to take part in a Bollywood dance workshop.



The Learning Resource Centre ran a host of events to celebrate World Book Day including a 'Guess Who' competition where they had to guess which member of staff was hiding behind a book, using the book title as a clue to who they were. Chicco Price (9E), Morton Tooley (9D) and Jack Auchinachie (9E) were the winners and won signed copies of books by Joe Craig and Dan Freedman.

Staff put up signs on doors to let students know what they were reading for pleasure and students went around the Academy writing these down. Kai (7C) and Roland (7C) were the winners and both won an electronic personal organiser.

Students also had an opportunity to graffiti the name of their favourite books, on large sheets of paper, in the Agora at lunchtime.

World Book Day is designated by UNESCO as a worldwide celebration of books and reading, and is marked in over 100 countries. The main aim of World Book Day is to encourage young people to explore the pleasure of books and reading.

Shakespeare

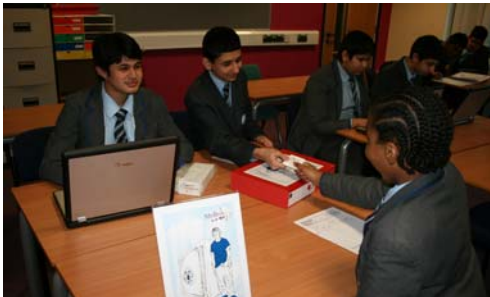
Mr J Clayton

On Tuesday 15 March Year 13 English students welcomed celebrated actor and director Don Warrington to the academy. His visit gave students the opportunity to debate and discuss Shakespeare's Othello, which they are currently studying.



MyBnk @ WA

Mr B Abdullah



Students at Walthamstow Academy now have the chance to start their own businesses following the launch of an online youth enterprise bank.

MyBnk-in-a-Box is a friendly independent school banking system and part of a financial literacy drive in Waltham Forest. It provides young people with a unique opportunity to deposit savings and to apply for interest-free loans of up to £100 to start their own businesses.

Charity MyBnk has trained a board of 15 managers from Years 9 and 12 to run the fully fledged bank at the Academy. The bank was launched with the Year Seven students and now the scheme is to be rolled out to the entire Academy. The bank is open every Tuesday during lunch time at 1.15pm.



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Spring Term Ends
Friday 08 April

Summer Term Begins
Tuesday 26 April

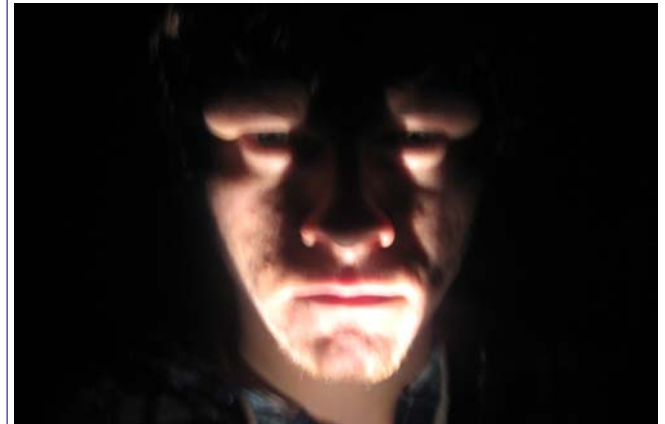
Bank Holiday Closures
Friday 29 April
Monday 02 May

Half Term Break Begins
Monday 30th May

Back to Academy
Monday 6th June

Soho Theatre

Ms C Coe



On Monday 14 March BTEC Performing Arts students performed *Children of Killers* at the Soho Theatre. The thought provoking play, written by Katori Hall, is set in Rwanda and focuses on three young men, born during the aftermath of the genocide, who are preparing to meet their fathers for the first time.

The production is part of the National Theatre's Connections programme where new plays by up and coming writers are performed by youth theatre groups.

A packed theatre thoroughly enjoyed the production and the actors revelled in the opportunity to perform on a west end stage.

Bag Packing

Mr C Brown

As part of our Community Cohesion programme, Year 7 students have been raising money for Age UK by packing bags at Sainsburys on Thursday afternoons. The students were excellent throughout and a credit to the Academy.



Science News

Ms K Agboola

As this newsletter goes to press the Science department are completing a week of activities at the Academy to mark National Science & Engineering Week. We will bring you full review of the week in April's newsletter.

Biology Lecture

Ms K Agboola

On 1 March a group of scientists at the Academy attended a lecture by Professor Julian Ma from University of London. The lecture, which focussed on the debate surrounding genetically modified plants, was followed by a lively question and answer session.

The professor really enjoyed his visit and said, "I visit a lot of schools and the students here were very confident and more forthcoming with their questions compared to other schools."

Professor Ma is keen to develop his partnership with the Academy and has invited a group of students to visit the laboratories at St. Georges in July for a day of practical exploration.

Immunology

Ms K Agboola

Four PhD students from Queen Mary Hospital visited the Academy on 8 March and met with a group of students. They gave presentations on their PhD projects and taught our students molecular biology techniques.

Students had the chance to extract their own DNA before observing the red and white blood cells in a sample provided by one of our teachers.

Walthamstow Academy students thoroughly enjoyed the event which gave them a flavour of what it is like to develop and lead your own research pro-

Specialisms

Ms S Blanch

On Friday 11 March BP visited the Academy and students took part in an interactive Trading Game Challenge. Students learnt about crude oil and what influences its price. Students worked as companies and received news items which they had to respond to by buying or selling their stock. It was a fantastic event and thoroughly enjoyed by staff and students. Well done to our winning teams!



STEM Club

Mr A Modoni

Students from the STEM club visited Heathcote School on 8 March. They competed with five other schools in a team challenge to build large models of the Olympic Rings using paper. Each of the Olympic Rings when built stands at 1.5m in height. Our students built 4 complete rings - the most out of all the schools!

Hyelni Ganrvwa (8A) said: "It was a great day out; I never knew you could make Olympic Rings out of paper. Paper is the future!"

We are hoping to complete building the last Olympic Ring structure in the STEM Club and then display the rings in the sports hall.



Message from the Principal

We are extremely proud of our growing reputation and involvement in both the local and wider community. This month has seen us welcome a host of guests and seen our students actively involved in a range of activities locally.

Visitors are always impressed with our outstanding facilities and the calm and positive learning environment we provide, but it is our students themselves who leave the biggest impression, whether it be students packing bags in our local Sainsburys, performing on a West End stage, or debating the ethics of scientific research, all of which happened this week!

Our visitors this month have included a professor from the University of London, a celebrated actor/director from stage and screen and a prestigious journalist and author from the literary world. This gave our students an invaluable opportunity to work alongside professionals from the wider community and we look forward to strengthening our partnerships in the future.



Emma Skae—Principal

Year 7 Homework Timetables

Mr G Mathews

Year 7 homework timetables are now available on-line. Parents and students can view and print the timetables by visiting the Walthamstow Academy website and clicking on the curriculum tab.

Borough Basketball Finals

Ms G Clare



Congratulations to the Year 9 and 10 girls basketball teams who both made it to the Waltham Forest Basketball Finals this year.

The Year 9 team faced Heathcote and played extremely well but unfortunately this was not enough and they lost 8 – 22. All the girls played to the best of their ability with the support of the cheerleaders from the side line led by Miss Noland.

The Year 10 game was a different story against Lammas. It was insanelly close with only one basket in it which saw Lammas taking the win.

The PE department are very proud of all the girls who worked amazingly hard throughout the season. Miss Clare and Miss Burns would like to say a big thank you to Mr. Olajide for his coaching expertise and constant support for the girls.