

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY



AUTUMN TERM 2

NEWSLETTER

This has been another busy term at Shireland. Students in Year 11 have completed their mock examinations as they continue to prepare for their public examinations and parents of these students will receive the results early in January.

We have sent students all over the country this term to support learning outside the classroom. They have been to Art galleries, on geography field trips to name a couple. Our students in Year 7 and 8 delivered a very powerful Remembrance Day assembly and our Post 16 students produced an evening of dance, drama and music performances that were of the highest quality. In early November our dance troop Royal Reign beat off national competition to become the Encore champions with a stunning performance. This is just a small flavour of the many events and opportunities that students have had this term, not to mention a busy schedule of lessons!

In the penultimate week of term students have had rewards assemblies and congratulations to all those students who have worked extremely hard to gain this recognition and these awards. I have held lunchtime meeting with selections of students from each year group this term and the insights that they have given me into the school have been valuable and have led to some changes in school organisation. I look forward to continuing this into next year.

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy, peaceful and relaxing Christmas break and a prosperous New Year.

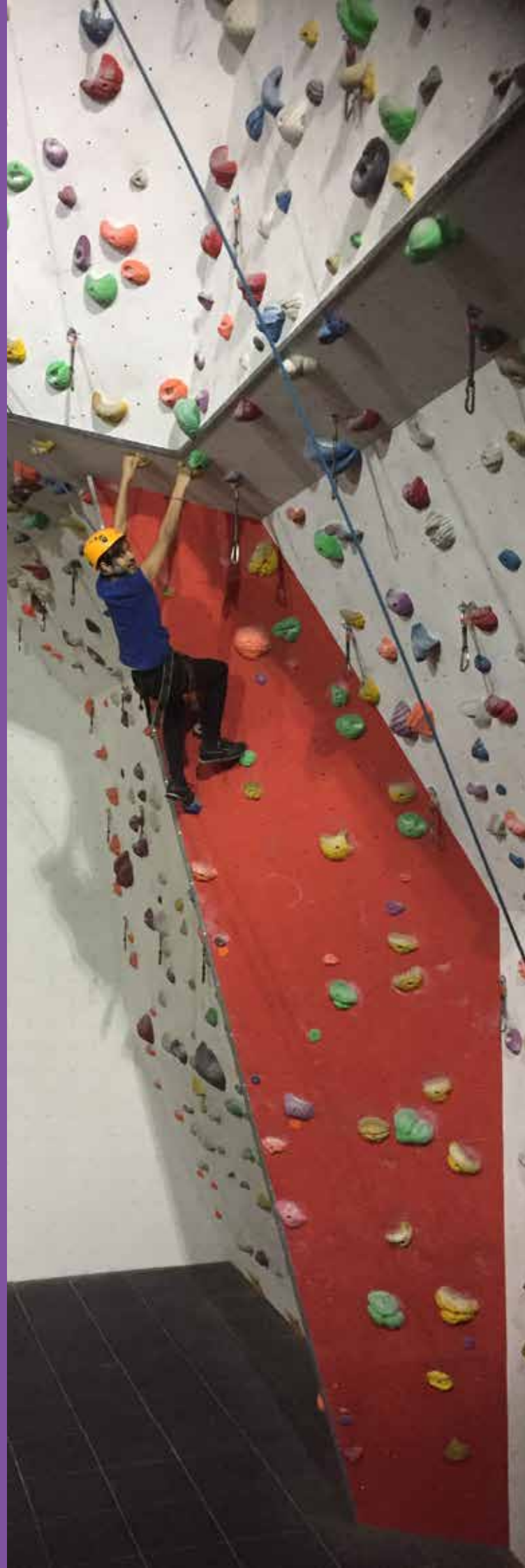
Mr D Irish
Principal





Wolf Mountain Trip

On Thursday 30th November, the year 10 BTEC Physical Education students took part in their 'indoor rock climbing' practical assessment. This took place at the amazing 'Wolf Mountain' in Wolverhampton. Students had to complete a set of tasks based on their course criteria. I am very pleased to announce that ALL students passed with flying colors. It was an incredibly successful and enjoyable day with both the students and staff looking forward to the next visit in the new year.



TATE Modern Gallery Trip

The trip on the 1st of November was originally prompted by Mr Cooper's upset about the fact none of his year 13 Photographers knew what the TATE was. Unaware myself about what an important cultural establishment it has been to British culture, we set off early on a chilly cold Wednesday morning from Rolfe Street train station, with a quick change at Birmingham new street, we soon found ourselves on the streets of London.

A short walk from the train station Mr Cooper wanted our first experience of the Tate Modern to be walking the entrance of the Turbine House. He had described it in detail but nothing could have prepared us for what we were about to see. The Turbine Hall once a vital part of the former Bankside power station has in essence been left as is was originally built. The pioneering space has been world renowned in changing perceptions and driving modern art forward into the twenty first century, hosting many artists such and Louise Bourgeois, Damian Hurst, Anish Kapoor to name a few.

Their most recent installation which was sponsored by Mitsubishi was not only interactive but was very sympathetic to the original building. It was a variety of interlocking orange steel structures, contrasting against the original construction of the building. The orange was emphasized as it was placed against the dull colour of grey metal and brick surrounding the assembly. Draping from these metal bars, were large swings that held colourful seats. These were designed to hold young children to distract them for a little while as their elder siblings and/or parents perused the gallery. However, many people, including adults were seen to swing from the bars, providing joy for many of the audiences coming to view the artwork.

We were able to interact with the installation ourselves, but Mr Cooper insisted that we saw more of what the gallery had to offer. The gallery's wealth and range of art was evident in the very first room we entered. Certain rooms were curated in time frames or art movements. Our main focus was trying to find photographers which could support our coursework component.

I particularly liked the work of Pierre Debusschere and Jose Romussi, which I found vital seeing in a gallery setting as it had a very different feel to seeing it on the internet. I would like to thank Mr Cooper for organizing such an amazing trip and Year 13 photographers will promise never to say that we don't know what the TATE is ever again.

Katie Wallis

Netball Trip

On the 30th November Mrs Brooks and Miss Walters took 14 students to watch England Netball vs Malawi at the Genting Arena, Birmingham. For many of the students this was their first time watching an international Netball match. It was the 3rd match in the tri-series, of which England were triumphant.

The students observed a great display of shooting skills and athleticism from both sides which they will hopefully take back to their own Netball game. Netball practice is ran by Mrs Brooks on a Wednesday afterschool.



Year 13 Business Revision Conference

To boost the students chances of achieving high grades in their January examinations Mr Reade and Mrs Uppal took the students to a revision conference at Star City. The event proved a real success and gave the students more confidence in their ability to achieve in the examination. Expert presenters provided some top tips to the students and gave them excellent extra resources to support revision. The conference was very interactive, fun and informative.

The students came away from the event knowing that with continued hard work that had all the necessary tools to enable them to be successful in this upcoming examination. Thank you to tutor2u for running the event.





The national memorial arboretum, visited by a large group of year 9 students on the 20th November 2017 excellently showcased many fascinating displays to remember those who died fighting for our country, as well as children brutally murdered for no reason.

As advertised, the arboretum presented trees signifying many important events in 'modern' history ranging from the unfortunate children massacred in a classroom by a group of terrorists, to the famous diarist Miss Anne Frank; it also exhibited memorials for famous affairs during 'The Great War' such as Gallipoli and many more.

An interesting day and a fantastic learning process for students across year 9 teaching them about those who should be remembered for fighting out of love for their country, it is a trip that should not be forgotten.



Travel and Tourism Trip

Yr12 Travel and Tourism students went to the German Market and Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery on Thursday 30th November. The purpose of this trip was to interview staff at an attraction and event in Birmingham. We had previously prepared questions that we asked in both the museum and at the market. This research will be used in our coursework, and provided us with useful, interesting information about the Tourism industry.



University of Wolverhampton problem solving club

By Ali Gulzar- a student of Year 13

In the first week of the problem solving class, we studied the properties of angles in shapes and how to solve them. This has brought back information of the rules that shapes must follow which was commonly taught in preparation of the GCSE examinations. As this involved a variety of challenging questions (some from the UKMT).

The second session was focussed more of the concepts of proofs and the uses of factorials. This has been valuable preparation for our examinations.

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Term Dates

Spring 1

Wednesday 3rd Jan - Friday 16th Feb