SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 201

Dear Families

Welcome to our spring newsletter and what a busy term we have had! In this newsletter you will read about the wonderful opportunities that your children have had to visit interesting places and to take part in exciting competitions. Alongside this, students in Year 10 and Year 11 have been sitting mock examinations whilst in Year 9 they have participated in a business event that extended their skills in production and marketing of products. We have seen some high quality performances in our music, dance and drama showcases that continue to go from strength to strength, incorporating students from Year 7 through to Year 13.

I would like to remind parents of students in Year 11 and Post 16 that the public examination season moves ever closer and that the academy will be open over Easter for study support sessions, you should receive a letter inviting your child to some of these sessions if they are required. They should also make the most of our new Revision Site on the Learning Gateway as there are some fantastic resources available that will support revision in all subjects available.

Finally, I must congratulate Sir Mark on being Principal or Executive Principal of Shireland for 20 years on the 31st of March, 2017. This is a wonderful achievement and a testament to his commitment to the families in the area that the academy serves. Sir Mark is the longest serving Principal or Executive Principal in Sandwell. Congratulations Sir Mark!

I wish you all a peaceful and relaxing Easter break.

Mr D Irish Associate Principal





Sir Mark Grundy was appointed Head Teacher of what was then Shirleand School – Waterloo Road Smethwick, on 31st March 1997, taking the title of youngest Head Teacher Sandwell. He has now achieved another title - longest serving Head Shireland Teacher Collegiate at Academy. It has been an amazing 20 years of dedicated service to the students and families of Shireland and the wider Smethwick community, with Sir Mark leading the school to be judged outstanding three times.

Sir Mark has transformed the school to become a beacon for "outstanding" learning, known for innovative ways of teaching and learning in the ever changing education world. His inspirational leadership has meant the school has taken every opportunity to ensure every student can be the best they can be. In his commitment to helping young people Sir Mark was knighted for his service to education in 2006.

His passion for technology, and the use of it to engage students in learning and to help teachers become outstanding practitioners has been central to the transformation of the working Shireland. Sir Mark has led the school from being a local authority school to a foundation school to become one of the first Academies in 2007. Though there are many achievements, the introduction of home learning with computers for all students and families for Shireland and its feeder primary Another schools should stand out. major achievement is the introduction of a curriculum for learning in key stage 3 (years 7 and 8) that has transformed the way students learn. This approach majority of the student's ensures well above the national progress average. This has been borne out in recent league tables showing progress of students in schools across all 8 subjects, of which Shireland has topped the table in Sandwell and is within the top 3% in the West Midlands.

"Thank you, Sir Mark. We have been fortunate to have such a committed, forward thinking inspirational leader."

National Theatre Live

A live high-definition broadcast from London of "Twelfth Night" will be presented as a National Theatre Live production on Thursday, April 6, at Shireland Theatre in Smethwick at 7 p.m.

Tamsin Greig stars as Malvolia in a new twist on Shakespeare's classic comedy of mistaken identity. In the story, a ship is wrecked on the rocks. Viola is washed ashore, but her twin brother Sebastian is lost. Determined to survive on her own, she steps out to explore a new land. So begins a whirlwind of mistaken identity and unrequited love.

The nearby households of Olivia and Orsino are overrun with passion; even Olivia's upright housekeeper Malvolia is swept up in the madness. Where music is the food of love, and nobody is quite what he or she seems, anything proves possible.

Shireland Theatre is a newly established independent theatre which showcases both live events and encore performances from National Theatre Live and the Royal Shakespeare Company.

Shireland Theatre is located at the end of Bearwood High Street at Shireland Collegiate Academy, aiming to connect audiences and communities across the West Midlands and neighbouring regions. The comfortable, fully accessible £8 million purpose-built facility theatre offers the latest technology upgrades for sound and projection quality.

Simon Godwin (NT Live's "Man and Superman" and "The Beaux' Stratagem") directs this joyous new production of Twelfth Night. The ensemble cast includes Daniel Rigby ("Flowers," "Jericho"), Tamara Lawrence ("Undercover"), Doon Mackichan ("Smack the Pony") and Daniel Ezra ("The Missing," "Undercover").

Sir Mark Grundy, Executive Principal of Shireland Collegiate Academy says "I'm delighted that Twelfth Night will be the first public performance from National Theatre Live at Shireland Theatre. We have an incredible facility and lots of plans to bring the best film and theatre from around the world into Smethwick."

SHIRELAND THEATRE

F1 in Schools National Finals

F1 in Schools Ltd is a social enterprise working with committed industry partners to provide an exciting yet challenging educational experience through the magnetic appeal of Formula One. F1 in Schools is the only truly global educational programme that raises awareness of STEM and Formula One among students and school children in every region, in every country, on every continent.

After winning the Central England Regional Shierland F1 in Schools team final, SlipStream Racing competed at the National Finals of the competition at the Silverstone F1 circuit on March 29th. Competing against the best teams from around the United Kingdom, the team of Year 9 and 10 students faced stiff competition. The team were required to present all of their work to panel of expert judges from the engineering industry including manufacturing a model F1 car, engineering portfolios, enterprise presentation and marketing display. After a long day of competing, the team were rewarded for their efforts with third place overall throughout the UK. This is a tremendous achievement for the team and the academy and we congratulate them on their achievement.

Dauud Zahir (Design Engineer) said "It felt amazing knowing that we managed to win the regional finals and progress to the national finals where we competed against the best teams from around the United Kingdom. We were proud to have been awarded a place on the podium and are privileged to have learnt so much from the competition"





Post 16 Cruise Trip Authors – Post 16 Travel and Tourism students

The cruise was very fun trip as there were many things to do on board Britannia. They had a wide variety of facilities like a gym, basketball court, gaming room, cinema, swimming pool, a Jacuzzi and much more. The food was also very nice and they had a buffet that was open 24h/day. The evening meals on both nights were a 5 course meal and a 6 course meal, we also had a menu were we could choose what we wanted to have so everyone on our table had something different which was an interesting experience as some people had chicken liver, blue cheese or other strange foods for a starter.

During the cruise, we docked in Belgium and had the opportunity to go on-shore. We then took a coach to Blankenberge train station where we took a train to Bruges. We then were given the day to discover and walk around the centre. There were many shops, which were beautiful and unique to Bruges. We visited multiple stores from beauty stores, department stores to dessert parlours. We also had the opportunity to devour some Belgian waffles, which made the experience a lot more worthwhile. There were horse and carriage tours and Segway tours, which were operating within the area.

During our second day, we had the opportunity to interview P&O crew members where we asked questions about their job roles and day-to-day duties. The staff were very friendly and shared lots of information for us to use in our assignment back at the academy. Overall, it was an exciting trip where we had many new experiences.



UCAS Convention University of Worcester

A number of Year 12 students attended the UCAS convention on Thursday 23rd March 2017. The convention was held at University of Worcester. The UCAS convention is held every year and at least 150 Universities, Colleges and other relevant exhibitors were in attendance.

Year 12 students attended a number of seminars that covered general Higher Education issues. This was an excellent opportunity for students to get an overview of what opportunities are available to them after completion of Year 13.



The Shireland Debating Squad are champions of the West Midlands for the 2016/2017 debating season!

The 35 strong debating squad have put in a tremendous performance this year and out fought, out articulated and outwitted all who have been placed before them...in a debating bout!

Over 15 rounds of debating have been competed in and our students have had the opportunity to let their intelligence and passions shine. In each of the contests they have overcome opposition teams who were older and more experienced to claim the championship.

Under Caroline Derbyshire's (Year 9) presidency (and superb performances) the debating club continues to grow...so bring on the Debate Mate Cup!

League Table 2016/2017:

West Midlands

- 1. Shireland Collegiate Academy
- 2. Bishop Challoner Catholic College
- 3. Harborne Academy
- 4. Wood Green Academy
- 5. George Dixon Academy
- 6. KESH Academy
- 7. Holte School
- 8. St Edmund Campion Catholic School



Debate Mate Cup Finalists – Runners Up

On Tuesday, 20th April, 2017 the Shireland Debating Squad took on the collective might of the regions debating talent at Birmingham University. All 4 teams performed exceptionally well and experienced a great deal of success and some struggle.

The Shireland A Teams 7 match winning streak came to an end in the final. The team comprising: Finn Chapman (Yr8 – added for the Final), Asiba Safi (Yr9), Prabjhot (Yr9), Diana Denca (Yr7), Rushda Khan (Yr7) and Caroline Derbyshire (Yr9), raised their game in the final to new levels of sophisticated arguing!

They debate the statement: 'This house would make voting in referenda compulsory'. But, despite their superb arguments in opposition to this statement they unfortunately succumbed to the debating style of the YEAR 10 Bishop Challoner students on the day.

The partisan crowd roared our students on and one unused judged exclaimed 'I would have given it to opposition (Shireland A)'...but their efforts in this year's debating season have seen us win the West Midlands League, be awarded the accolade of the region's best debating club and a silver placing in the prestigious Debate Mate Cup Final. It has been a good year!

FlipOut

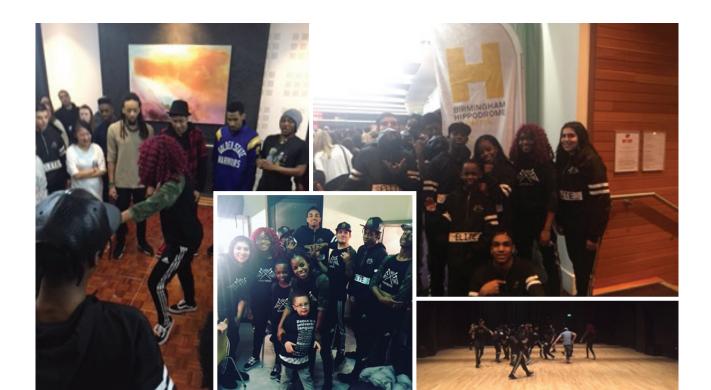
16 year 8 students were rewarded to an afternoon at Flip Out Trampoline Park on Friday 7th April. Students were all selected by their L4L teachers for being the Star Student of the Term, as they were acknowledged for their outstanding contribution to the L4L curriculum. Year 7s on the other hand were also rewarded for their efforts with an afternoon of eating and decorating their own Easter eggs!

Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th March `Dance Sampled` 2017

10 Students from SCDC's crew `HEAVY REIGN` represented at The Birmingham Hippodrome in the `Sampled Dance` festival. They filled up the foyers with some excellent performances created by Mrs Prince.

The dancers also managed to get the opportunity to have a professional workshop on the Friday evening with `Iron Skills Co` who were also performing on the main stage. The students battled it out with some of the Top B Boys in the area, and we are proud to announce that Milan Balaz, one of our very own, made it to the final.

The students then had the opportunity to watch a professional show, showcasing talent from all around the world.



Saturday 11th March 2017- MOVE IT - London's EXCEL Dance Exhibition

Nikita Kaur Bans was invited to represent Shireland alongside Mrs Prince at the "Move It" International Dance festival on Saturday 11th March at Londons Excel. The festival takes part over 3 days and showcases some of the best educational resources available in the dance industry. Nikita had the opportunity to take part in professional workshops, see live performance, talk to people about dance in the industry and collate a wealth of resources to set her on her way to university.

Wednesday 29th March 2017- Theatre Royal Nottingham, Ghost Dances Performance

On Wednesday 29th March the Year 12 BTEC dance students conducted a live interview with the Rambert Dance Company about their forthcoming Unit 1 Examination essay `Investigating Practitioners' Work`.

They also saw the show live and prepared post show questions. This was a valuable opportunity for their exam to see the performance in which they are studying live, this will hopefully encourage their primary research in preparation for the exam to be excellent.

Sunday 9th April 2017- UDO (United Dance Organisation) Competiton, Coventry

The students from Mrs Prince's company SCDC `Heavy Reign` will be competing for the title of Under 18 East Midland Best Dance Crew. Joining them will be the new recruits `Royal Subjects,` the Under 14 crew.

This will be their first compettion experience and I wish them the very best of luck. Results of the compettion to follow.

ICAEW Trip

BASE is an initiative setup by ICAEW, one of the UK's leading providers of accounting qualifications, to allow students a unique and exciting opportunity to engage in a business challenge, developing key employability skills along the way. On Friday 17th March, we took 2 small groups of Accounting students from Shireland to compete regionally at The Whitehouse Hotel in Telford, with the hope of doing well and progressing to the national finals in Birmingham later in the year. Whilst there, students had an opportunity to network with local employers, allowing them to gain a great insight into the world of accountancy and gathering key contacts with the potential of future employment and training opportunities.

The second half of the day was filled with the challenge, where students were given some background information regarding a small enterprise in the digital media industry and asked to assess their position financially and make calculated recommendations as to future investments. The two groups worked extremely well together producing some fantastic data and found it very insightful applying knowledge from the classroom into a real world problem. They then had an opportunity to present their findings to a panel of prospective board members, putting their knowledge and ability to the test in a pressured environment.

Unfortunately, due to high levels of competition from local grammar and boarding schools, the students were not able to scoop the winner's prize on this occasion, however all students agreed that the day had been a great success. Not only had they been able to put their knowledge to the test n a real world context but they felt as though the experience had allowed them to grow and develop as young adults moving into the real world of business. Well done to all involved.

Year 12 Photography A Level visit to Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and The Ikon Gallery

As part of the A Level Photography studies, Yr12 students visited two Art Galleries in Birmingham; they also looked at the architecture of Birmingham during a walking city tour.

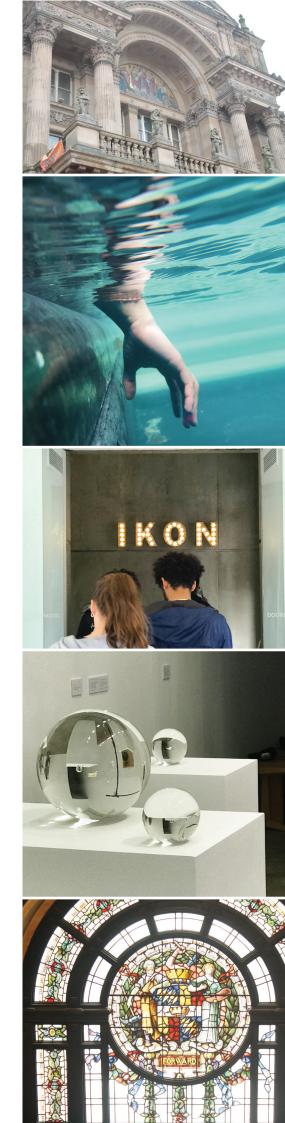
Photography students are always encouraged to look at the world around them in a new, unusual and creative way. On this visit, students were looking at work in the Galleries and the streets of Birmingham in relation to their Photography coursework project, to get inspiration and ideas through photography.

Firstly, they visited The Waterhall Gallery to see an exhibition curated by New Art West Midlands, this exhibition challenged students to look at and interpret contemporary art. From there they moved into the main part of Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, which was a fantastic experience to see the fantastic collections that this city has on show.

The walk between the galleries took in buildings such as the council offices, the Town Hall, the New Library, the canals, the ICC and then of course the Ikon Building itself and the contrast to the office buildings around Brindley Place. The students took many creative photographs at this stage.

The Ikon Gallery challenged students to think about sound in art, film in art and peoples' journeys through life. They looked at the work of Oliver Beer and Jean Paneleve.

All in all, it was a very successful gallery day out with many responses, challenges and creative ideas.



Worcester Warriors Bosch Enterprise Competition Article by - Rushda (Year 9)

On Sunday 5th March, the Worcester Warriors Bosch Enterprise Competition took place in Worcester. Our group, made up of the new Year 9 Business Studies GCSE students, attended this trip and took part, this consisted of Asiba Safi, Jasleen Kaur, Rushda Khan, Alisha Farid and Amari Suberu – Morrison. We were asked to come up with a promotional product for the Sixways Stadium Shop, for a target market of below 18's or families, which we had prepared for within a time space of a few days.

After presenting to a panel of three judges, which was a wonderful experience, we and the other teams were treated with a rugby game, which we had the privilege of watching in the best seats. It was Worcester Warriors against another team, a game they then won. None of us had actually had the pleasure of watching a rugby game before and so we found this incredibly entertaining.

Before the match, we were given the results of the competition. Unfortunately, even though we did extremely well, we did not win but had a special mention from the main judge for our presentation, our attitude and our strategy in competing. Although our product idea did not succeed, we are very proud to have been part of the event and glad to have this valuable experience.

Important Dates

Term Dates - Monday 24th April- Friday 26th May

Bank Holiday - Monday 1st May (School Closed) Year 10 Parents Evening - Wednesday 10th May