

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER
SUMMER TERM 2

Welcome Message

As another busy year draws to a close, our final installment of the newsletter will give you a real flavour of the amount of activity that has taken place in the Academy over the last term.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and students for all their hard work in making this such a successful year.

I would also like to thank families for their support and wish you all a happy and relaxing summer break.

Mr D Irish

Associate Principal



Isle of Wight Trip

Yr10 Travel and Tourism and Geography students visited the Isle of Wight in June. They visited a number of attractions to experience customer service and collect data for their coursework. Students interviewed a number of attraction employees to ask questions about how they manage customer service. Some of the attractions they visited were Donkey Sanctuary, Robin Hill Park, JR Laser Zone, Needles and Dinosaur Isle. The weather was also great on the first day so we managed to make the most of the beach in the sunshine.





Shireland Theatre School

Guys and Dolls was a weeklong production which took part in the Academy between Monday 10th and Friday 14th July. The performance was a huge success. In total there were 6 shows which were available to students and families. The performance has really seen theatre school at its best through this show, showing how dedicated both Mrs Prince and the Hippodrome Creative are, but most importantly how well they now know our students. The show catered to their personalities and of course their performance strengths.



Well done to all involved. Auditions for our new Pantomime, 'The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe' will be second week back after the summer. Good Luck!
See Mrs Prince for more details



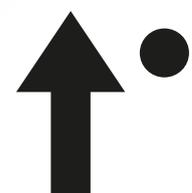
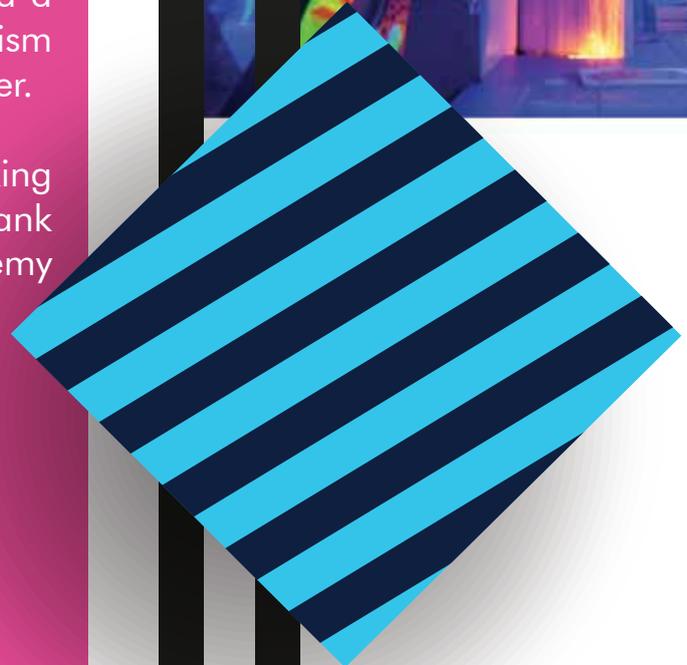
Autism Show at Birmingham NEC

On Friday 23rd June, a group of Year 12 Psychology students visited the Autism Show at the NEC. As part of their A2 studies, they will study Child Psychology and therefore this was a perfect opportunity for them to collect information from professionals and people with autism, about the disorder.

During the day, students attended seminars delivered by a range of people where they learned about the communication difficulties that people with autism face, strategies for helping both children and adults and talks from inspirational young people on how they have overcome the stigma they face about autism.

In addition to this, students also got the chance to experience some of the technologies and interventions available to help children with autism such as sensory rooms, Lego Based Therapy, Jumping Clay and other immersive technologies. The students say that they had a fantastic day and learnt a lot about autism which will help with their studies in September.

Due to the success of this trip, we will be looking to run a visit to next years Autism Show. Thank you all students who represented the Academy well and made us proud.



North Wales 'Plas Gwynant' Residential Trip June 2017

34 students from years 7, 8 and 9 took part in a residential weekend at Plas Gwynant Outdoor Activity Centre in North Wales.

The students took part in a range of outdoor and adventurous activities such as canoeing, abseiling and gorge walking!

The students' experience of the weekend was overwhelmingly positive. Students greatly enjoyed all of the activities and the opportunity to spend quality time in a rural and outdoor adventurous setting. It was a quality learning experience, which allowed the students to discover their strengths, and learn a new set of skills to apply to their daily lives.

The trip will be running again in 2018, so look out for information in the near future.



Year 7 and 8 End of Year Trip

To reward the hard work, excellent attendance and behaviour of the students in Year 7 and Year 8, 250 students visited Drayton Manor to enjoy the thrill of the fair. Rides, food and cuddly toys won made it a memorable day for all. To top it all the weather was great!

Both year groups have experienced a great deal of success this year in their L4L studies and all their form tutors wish them well as they begin their new timetables.



Year Eleven Drayton Manor Rewards Trip

Year Eleven embarked on their final rewards trip as a cohort, on Tuesday 27th June.

The trip was a well-earned way of marking the end of Year Eleven and of the GCSE exams, especially as so many of them had worked exceptionally hard in the preceding months.

It was fantastic to see students having a great day out, although it felt somewhat tinged with sadness that this was my last day of being their head of year.

Institute of Physics - Science Ambassadors Training at Birmingham City University

7th July 2017

A full day of Science Ambassador training for Female Year 8 students.

The girls all developed the skills to deliver Physics experiments and outreach activities.

Activity Session 1 Our Solar System and getting out there

Involved making rockets such as Fizzy rockets from film canisters and fizzy Vitamin C tablets, Balloon Rockets from balloons and string, and Straw rockets from straw and paper and comparing planet sizes using clothes pegs, string and various spherical objects.

Activity Session 2 Living in space

It can take up to two hours for an astronaut to put their space suit on and another hour to take it off after a 6-8 hour spacewalk. NASA developed Maximum Absorbency Garments (MAGS) which are a bit like bike shorts with several layers of material layered with sodium polyacrylate crystals. Disposable nappies also contain these crystals, one activity involved showing how MAGS can hold up to 1-2 litres of water, using disposable nappies. A second activity involved the girls using UV beads to make bracelets which changed colour when exposed to ultraviolet light. Finally, the girls saw the effects of reducing air pressure using a vacuum pump, marshmallow and shaving foam in a doll's head, watching these ooze out mimic what would happen to an astronaut's spacesuit if it leaked outside the space station.

Activity Session 3 Presentation

Presentation tips and activity sessions were shared between various Science Ambassadors from several schools within the West Midlands. The girls from Shireland Collegiate Academy made their presentations very humorous and interesting, they spoke clearly, made eye contact and smiled throughout, passing on their enthusiasm.





Sports Day

Sports seem to bring the best out of our students and the annual Shireland sports day that took place on 10th July was no exception. Students from both key stage three and four decamped to Hadley Stadium for the afternoon. According to the head of Physical Education Stephanie Bortolozzo, "The students and staff found it very enjoyable and absolutely loved it", she said. One by one, the events take place in a very well organised and disciplined manner. These include both track and field.

The competitive sports lasted for about three hours and then came the most exciting moment of the afternoon - the moment of appreciating all of the participants and awarding the winners with their respective shields. This is the ultimate moment of pleasure for winners when, amidst loud clapping and shouting of cheers, they get their rewards for their hard work from the head teacher Mr Irish. On behalf of the Physical Education Department I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who were involved in yet another successful sports day here at Shireland Collegiate Academy.

Year 7

Long jump - Tyra Logan (Brindley) 4.15m (previously 4.11m from 2008)

Relay - Brindley 1.05.10 (previously 1.06 from 2013)

Year 8

Long Jump - Keyah Logan (Kenrick) 4.22m (previously 3.68 from 2014)

NEW ACADEMY RECORD

Year 9

Javelin - Fahad Miakhel (Kenrick) 25.7m (previously 23.6m from 2011)

Shot - Jediah Lee-Givens (Chance) 12.43m (previously 11.25 from 2014)

NEW ACADEMY RECORD

High Jump - Callum Ebanks (Telford) 1.45m (previously 1.4 from 2010)

Long Jump - Callum Ebanks (Telford) 5.10m (equal record)

Year 10

High Jump - Alise Straupmane (Telford) 1.2m (previously 1.02m from 2014)

Javelin - Edgar Motjetje (Telford) 30.9m (previously 30.1m from 2010)

NEW ACADEMY RECORD

Year 10 GCSE Art and Design visit to the Walker Art Gallery in Liverpool on Wednesday 7th June 2017.

Year 10 Art students visited Walker Art Gallery as part of their GCSE Art and Design course.

Students were taken around the gallery by the Art Department staff and were introduced to Art from Medieval times right up to the present day.

They worked through a set of tasks that included finding information, discussing artworks and sketching details from paintings.

The students were impeccably behaved and totally engaged in the art and the tasks. In the follow up lesson, where they had to reflect on the visit and refine their drawings, the students had clearly learnt a lot and enjoyed the visit. One quote being "I enjoyed it more than I thought I would, Miss."



Aston University Healthcare Aspiration Event

On Wednesday 5th July, a group of Year 12 students went to Aston University to take part in an exciting Healthcare Aspirations Event. This enabled students to access a range of different career options such as Optometry, Pharmacy, Nursing, Medicine and Dentistry and allowed students to speak to healthcare professionals at the university.

During the day, students visited exhibitions with information and interactive activities. Students attended talks and workshops including The UCAS Process and Making the most out of Sixth Form, Work Experience and Employability and a tour of Aston University Campus

IBM Trip 03/07/2017

The overall experience of the trip to IBM, was that of a very beneficial one. This was due to the relevance and the quality of information provided to us by the varying members at IBM, especially ex Shireland student, Bhajanjit Jalat. The information relayed to us covered many different aspects such as: apprenticeships, a one year placement and graduate schemes.

One member of IBM who was particularly interesting was a project manager called Adam. He gave us a 30 minute talk about the necessary information that is needed to add to CVs and information that is vital to know for job interviews.

It was also interesting to hear about all the opportunities in IBM, such as IBM Security, Analytics, Cloud or Mobile. How they analyse, collaborate and engage.

The trip was highly beneficial to all the students that attended and provided a basis for possible options for the future. Another great opportunity afforded us.

Hamzah Mahmood – Year 13



Year 10 Computer Science Trip to Wolverhampton University

On the 7th June the two Year 10 GCSE Computer Science groups had the privilege to visit Wolverhampton University for a unique experience and view into the world of degree level computing. It was a fun opportunity to understand perusable paths and occupations for computer scientists.

We began the day by succumbing to the architectural masterpiece that is the Alan Turing building of the University, riddled with computers and advanced technology that the University is investing in - for example drones and 3D printers. We had an initial talk from one of the leading teachers and he gave us a powerful speech, highlighting how Computing is progressing and integrating within modern society. An individual with a Computer Science degree can earn 40% more than the normal university graduate, due to the rising demand in software development and the surge of technology in our country. Furthermore, he gave us an insight into the courses available at the university, such as Games Development or Multimedia Programming. However, a very concerning issue he bestowed upon us was the lack of women within Computing. The university is offering scholarships specifically for young women, to encourage them to pursue the subject. The talk ended with a small inspirational message about the power of technology and computing, as technology is pioneering our modern society.

Our first workshop at the University begun with ciphers and encrypting. We learnt about the Caesar Cipher, a cipher which shifts letters by a certain number (which is the key to deciphering it) up or down the alphabet. It was interesting to see how such methods of decryption were used in ancient times. After completing that section, we progressed into manipulating elements within a website, to alter them into anything we desire. The program was completely created for educational purposes, however it also allowed us to convert the cost of a £999.99 TV into a shocking £1. We had to bypass a websites security to alter the cost. It was interesting to comprehend the various steps and aspects of a such a simple sounding task. It gave us a different perspective and view on the sheer capabilities of computing. The lecturers guided us through, as nothing was easy. It all required a deep level of thought and concentration, always keeping you occupied and amazed.



Lunch at the university was an experience with them having a Starbucks and buffet stopped us from complaining. It was a great social space.

Our final workshop was RoboCode - supervised by two teachers. Our task was to create the ultimate virtual robot, which would decimate others. We were given an hour to alter a basic template to battle against each other. All our bots would be uploaded into a virtual arena on the projector, where they would fight each other in an epic battle. The mechanics behind the bots were easy to comprehend; a simple knowledge of any coding language would allow you to excel in this task. We could customise the robots moving pattern, sensors and rate of fire. However, each aspect had a certain consequence. Allowing the robot to shoot 3 shots would give it a bigger chance of malfunctioning and being completely immobile, increasing its sensing capabilities would make the bot slower. It was all trial and error to create the perfect robot. It was very competitive and amusing, the best robot amongst us merely went back and forth, basically dodging the shots of 25 other bots and letting them kill each other.

The whole day was a memorable experience as it gave us a positive insight into computing. It allowed us to consider possibilities and future degrees which we would not have known about. My favourite workshop was Robocode, it was great to see 25 robots battle in a small arena. I would definitely pursue Computing at a university level. I would like to thank the lecturers at Wolverhampton University for creating such an amazing environment for us. Not forgetting Mrs Dillon and Mr Morris who held our hands on the journey. –

By Muhammed Akeel

Media City Trip

On Tuesday 27th June 2017 the Media Studies students of Shireland Collegiate academy visited the Media City UK in Salford.

Upon arriving, we were introduced to our tour guides who led us across the BBC institution that contained a variety of T.V. sets along with a radio station that we had the privilege of entering. From these places we have learnt a lot of information about the production of media.

These things include: lighting the floor to prevent scratches from showing up, painting the floor to allow other settings to be used in the same place, using augmented reality in sports and weather to allow the presenter to display information.

Ali Gulzar

Year 12 Student



Worcester Cathedral Trip

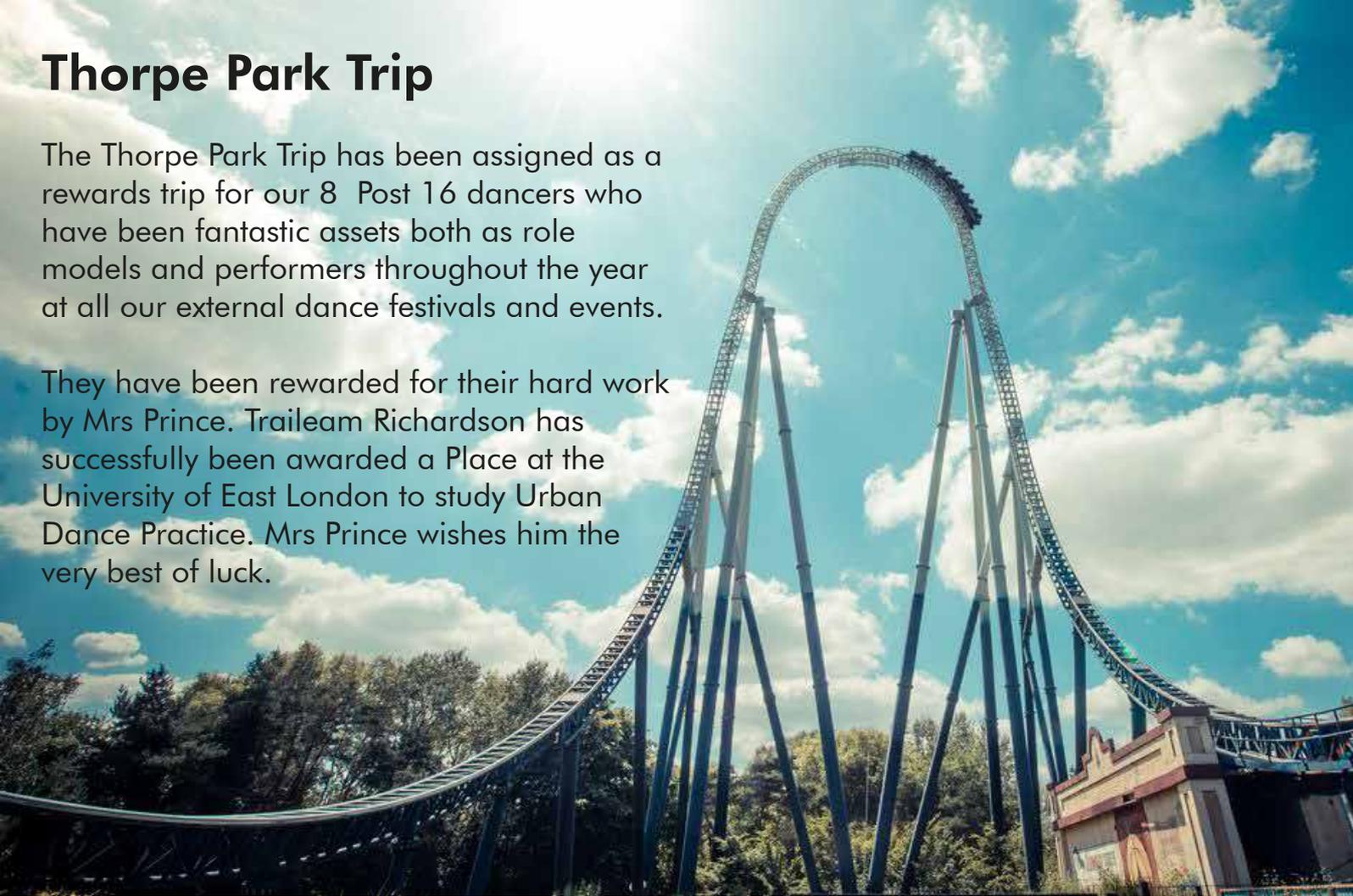
On the 23rd June Year 12 History students attended Worcester Cathedral for a Civil War experience. Students had a guided tour of the cathedral, looking at the key role it played in the final battle of the English Civil Wars in 1651.

Students had the opportunity of talking to expert historians and to handle and engage with primary documents from the 17th century. Photographs from the day have been uploaded to the Shireland twitter feed.

Thorpe Park Trip

The Thorpe Park Trip has been assigned as a rewards trip for our 8 Post 16 dancers who have been fantastic assets both as role models and performers throughout the year at all our external dance festivals and events.

They have been rewarded for their hard work by Mrs Prince. Traileam Richardson has successfully been awarded a Place at the University of East London to study Urban Dance Practice. Mrs Prince wishes him the very best of luck.



U.Dance Festival

U. Dance is an international dance festival, giving youth dance groups the opportunity to perform.

Our students gave vibrancy to the foyers on Sunday 16th July by performing their Grenfell Tower Tribute hip hop performance which was a show stopper they will also be performing this piece at the United Dance Organisation competition on Sunday 23rd July.

All proceeds and funds raised will go to the tragic families who lost loved ones during the horrendous fire in London last month.



Music Trip

We took 30 students to Wembley Arena for a careers fair in the morning followed by a music concert in the afternoon headlined by The Vamps.

The careers fair was an excellent opportunity for the students to find out about a vast selection of careers and university courses. The concert in the afternoon featured performances from Gavin James, Don E and The Vamps in a stunning live stage show. Wembley Arena was filled with thousands of screaming teenagers all wildly waving their glowsticks to the music.



All students behaved impeccably and they thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Kabir Kumar (Year 13 Music student) said, "Rock assembly was an amazing event, full of a wide range of different artists and music styles. I really enjoyed it and had a lot of fun."

Safari Park Trip

On Tuesday 27th June, students from two business studies groups were fortunate enough to be invited on a trip to the West Midland Safari Park. We started off the day by going around the Safari Drive-Through where we got to see various animals such as elephants, camels, cheetahs, buffalos and the "King of the Jungle", lions. It was very exciting to witness such animals especially because we felt like we were experiencing their habitat.

After that, we had an educational session with one of the park's staff. She taught us all about the employment in the park along with factors that affect a business. At the end of the session, we were put into groups and were asked to generate ideas on how the Safari park could advertise a baby giraffe based on the 4 P's (Product, Place, Price, Promotion).

Then the much-awaited part comes, we were free to go on any rides offered by the park. They had rollercoasters, water rides, dodgems, a pirate ship, jungle swings, tower drops and more. Overall, the day was very fun.



Important Dates

Autumn Term 1

Tues 5th September- Friday 20th October

Exam Results Days

A.S. and A Level - August 17th

GCSE- August 24th



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