

Executive Principal: Mrs Ruth Holden, MA, NPQH

Friday 4th December 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Firstly, I would like to send you my good wishes to you and your families and I hope you are all in good health.

**Please find attached our Newsletter, I hope that you enjoy it!
Please also look at our website regularly to see our news and updates.**

News about the school

Can I please ask all parents and carers to be mindful of parking cars or picking up children from the front of the school. The traffic is often quite busy at 3.30pm on Gosset Road and parking at the school can cause even more congestion at this time.

Quarantine period for some students

Well done to Year 13 students who are continuing to be taught via our remote learning system Microsoft teams and return to us on Monday 14th December.

Unfortunately, following telephone calls from Public Health for England and the DFE, Year 11 are currently being taught via our remote learning system Microsoft teams, as they are in quarantine until Monday 14th December following positive cases of Covid 19 in the Year group, also in Year 7 - tutor groups 7C and 7D. It is a very difficult and challenging time at the moment, but thank you for the support and understanding from staff, students and parents.

Christmas holidays dates

Please remember that the school closes for the Christmas holidays on Friday 18th December for a half day. The school reopens on Monday 4th January for staff only, students return to school on Tuesday 5th January at the normal time.

News about Public Examinations

I am sure many of you have seen the news about the changes to Year 11 and 13 Public Examinations proposed for the summer term. I wanted to reassure parents and students that when the finer details and guidance fully comes out from the Government at the end of January, the school will ensure that we have everything correctly in place for students and that both parents and students will be fully communicated with about the changes and detail in all subjects.

Part of the

Mulberry
Schools Trust



If your child has Covid Symptoms and you have sent for a test, please do not send your child into school until they have received a negative test result.

Please go on to our website and click on the special section called Covid 19 for all up to date advice and guidance from the Department for Education and from Public Health for England and from the school.

Well done again for the high attendance from students and staff on Microsoft Teams. I am proud of the way that the students and staff have found a way to teach and learn effectively. As well as our teachers and staff being brilliant at delivering lessons to students on Microsoft teams, they have also made it a priority to ensure that students' welfare is good and that they are doing everything they should for school.

Notices and reminders for all students and parents

There is hand sanitiser available all over the school and each year group will be taught in their own bubble with their own classrooms, desk, chairs and toilets.

For normal schools days, a face mask must be worn by all students and staff in all circulation spaces and fluid areas of the school at all times. Students must wear full school uniform to school and Sixth Formers must wear business dress.

All Government guidelines are in place and that students and staff are safe.

Thank you for working with the school in this difficult and challenging time.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Ruth Holden
Executive Principal

Executive Principal's News

Scholarships for Year 12

It was a fantastic morning on Tuesday when we awarded 10 Year 12 students with their £500 Scholarship awards following a lengthy process of application and decision making well done to: Habib Sharif, Saadaldin Yosof, Sudipta Kumar Nath, Tianna Roberts, Valentin Lita, Yahye Abdi Isse, Tamjid Ahmad, Izaz Ahmed, Amal Yussuf and Tchissola Da Costa.



Food bank

Thank you and well done to the House Leaders for organizing the ongoing Food bank. The generosity and contribution from students and families already has been amazing and we still have weeks to go. Thank you.



Year 12 Awards breakfasts

It was a pleasure to attend Year 12 Awards breakfasts this week seeing students receive certificates for different things such as progress in Chemistry and improved punctuality - well done to Ms Wills.

Notices

All students must bring a mask to school and must wear it around the buildings.

With two weeks to go until the end of the school term - can students please ensure that they are on time to school.

Thank you,
Mrs Ruth Holden
Executive Principal

Sixth Form Update

It was great to see our year 12 students back this week, we have had lots of great events happening with them:

On Monday we handed out rewards to those students who did so well in their online lessons whilst they were isolation. On Tuesday we had a really special event where ten of our students were offered the Scholarship prize for an essay they submitted to school. The judges, Mrs Holden, Ms Wills and myself were so impressed with the quality of work, it was a really tough choice! They fully deserved the £500 that they were given. There

were also 11 runners up who received amazon vouchers, well done to all!

This morning we had a lovely rewards breakfast with some of those students who have had a great week at school.

Finally a congratulations to

Sharmin Aktar who won a place on the K+ programme with King's College London - an amazing achievement on this competitive course!

K Frankum
Director of Sixth Form

APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS WORTH UP TO £500

IN YEAR 11? JOIN YOUR

SIXTH FORM

TALK TO YOUR TEACHERS ABOUT YOUR SUBJECTS, YOUR AMBITIONS, YOUR CHOICES

Year 8 Reading Challenge

As we have entered the winter season, the year 8s have been selected to take part in an exciting Winter Reading Challenge. We hope this can be an enjoyable and enriching contest for both parents and children to participate in. There will be a range of prizes to be won as well as your writing being published in the school's weekly newsletter. Happy reading year 8s.

THE WINTER READING CHALLENGE!

HOW DO I ENTER?

- Read one of the suggested books on the entry form (or a book of your choice)
- Write your one page book review!
- Bring your entry to the English office or you can hand it into your English teacher
- Be sure to write your review on the entry sheet provided

- Open to students from Year 7, 8 and 9
- Reading is a great way to improve your vocabulary and to broaden your imagination!
- Opportunity to win a book or a voucher and for your entry to be published in the school newsletter (and certificate)
- Will look great on applications for roles (e.g. House roles, prefects, sixth form/college applications)

Must be handed in by Friday 11th December

Prize: voucher and a certificate!

Flu Spray/Injection Catch Up Clinics

If your child (Reception to Year 7) has missed the Flu spray at school please contact the team to arrange an appointment. ***If you refused the vaccination due to faith/vaccine content reason, we are now able to offer the Flu Injection which **does not** contain gelatine***

To book an appointment please send a text message to **07908908415** with your child's full name, DOB, Class, School and vaccine preference (spray or injection) We will reply back with details of the appointment. Due to high demand we are taking bookings via text message only and will not be taking calls. Appointments will be given according to when we receive your message and whilst there is stock availability.

Protect your child. The vaccine will help protect your child against flu and serious complications such as bronchitis and pneumonia.

Protect you, your family and friends. Vaccinating your child will help protect more vulnerable family and friends.

Towerhamlets@vaccinationuk.co.uk

Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline by calling:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, Saturday and Sunday from 10am to 4pm

MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Did you manage to solve the maths problem this week?

**As I was going to St. Ives,
I met a man with 7 wives.**

Each of the wives had 7 sacks.

In each sack were 7 cats.

Each of the cats had 7 kits.

Kits, cats, sacks, wives – how many were going to St. Ives?

Answer

A trick question. Since you met the man on the way to St. Ives, he and his entourage must be coming *from* St. Ives. So the answer is just one – you. If you're feeling evil you might want to conspicuously distribute calculators for this puzzle.

If you do actually go through the calculations you should get $7 + 7^2 + 7^3 + 7^4 = 7 + 49 + 343 + 2401 = 2800$. This problem is very old indeed. It is supposed to date back to the ancient Egyptians:
<http://mathforeurope.digibel.be/story.htm>

WORD OF THE WEEK

Ambiguous

DEFINITION

having more than one possible meaning, sometimes intentionally. Not clear.

SYNONYMS

Unclear, Uncertain, Puzzling, Doubtful

CHARACTERISTICS

Ambi = Latin prefix meaning 'both'. 'ambiguity' is the noun form of the word.

EXAMPLE

- The politician gave an ambiguous answer.
- If you don't use the correct grammar the meaning can be a bit ambiguous and lead to confusion.

ANTONYMS

clear, obvious, precise

This week in pictures



Year 7 Science lesson



Year 7 Science lesson



Year 7 Samba group



Year 7 Science lesson



Year 12 Scholarship Awards



Choir practice



Year 12 Scholarship Awards



Year 12 Scholarship Awards

House colours and Christmas Jumpers

Next Friday 11th Year 7 students will have a House Colours Day and Year 8 - Year 13 students will have a Christmas Jumper Day.

If you are in Year 8 to 13 you can donate £1 to wear a Christmas Jumper. If you are in Year 7 you can opt to wear a costume that represents your House colour instead. No hats, caps or football shirts please, but fancy dress is encouraged!

All the money raised will go to local charities, St Hilda's East and the Tower Hamlets Foodbank, run by First Love Foundation. As of this Friday your form tutors will



have a collection bucket and donation register. We want you to donate your £1 early this year so that we can get the much needed funds to our supported charities.

Christmas jumpers or House colours are not compulsory but for the price of a bottle of drink you can help make a huge difference to somebody's life!

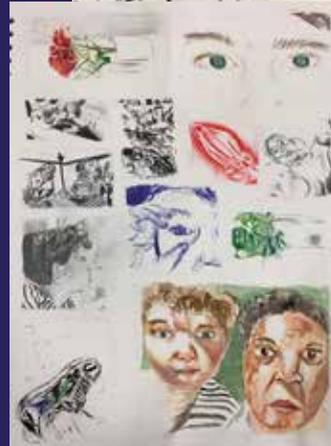
Year 11 Art Sketchbooks of the week



Sonia Mehregan



Wilfred Carter



Ella Dalgleish



firstlove FOUNDATION
Tower Hamlets Foodbank

