

Executive Principal: Mrs Ruth Holden, MA, NPQH

Friday 7th May 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Hope you are well and keeping safe. I have included an update on Corona Virus in Tower Hamlets from Public Health for England at the end of this letter and do encourage you to read this.

Last week we held Year 8 Parents' Evening – it was nice for teachers and parents to meet on Microsoft Teams to discuss student progress over the last Academic Year. We will be holding more Parents' Evenings for Year 13, Year 12, Year 9 and Year 7 over the next Term.

Eid

Next week members of our community will be celebrating Eid al-Fitr. This will be falling on either **Wednesday 12th** or **Thursday 13th May**. This will mean that on the day that Eid falls, the whole school will be closed for staff and students.

We will know at approximately 5pm on Tuesday if Eid will fall on Wednesday. **Should Eid fall on Wednesday**, we will send a text message on Tuesday evening to all parents letting them know that the school is closed and this will also be on our website.

If Eid is not on Wednesday, then it will definitely be on **Thursday 13th May** and this will be relayed to students in school on Wednesday. A text message will also be sent out on Wednesday and a message will be placed on our website.

Just Giving

The last year has been extremely difficult for our students. As we come out of lockdown and our school begins to return to normal, there is an urgent need to give all our students the opportunity, not just to return to the classroom, but to have fun, to experience a trip somewhere, to feel the freedom of the seaside or a camping trip and to enrich their lives and undo the mental and emotional damage that lockdown will have caused. If you feel passionate about helping us to do this for our young people aged 11-18 – please donate to our Just Giving page – no matter how little or how much – you will make a difference to children's lives and we will acknowledge this.

Please visit: www.justgiving.com/mulberryschoolstrust

Punctuality

The school day begins promptly at 8.35am and registration to school closes at 8.40am. If a student arrives after 8.40am they will be supervised by a senior member of staff and pastoral staff on that day.

Parents and carers have been notified of this in letters before Half Term as well as text messages, it is very important that your child arrives to school on time. Please make sure your child is on time to school – **8.40am**.

Message from Public Health for England

A small number of people in Tower Hamlets have types of Covid-19 called 'variants of concern'. These were first found in Brazil and South Africa.

These variants are called 'variants of concern' because we currently do not know if they spread more easily than the most common type of Covid-19, if they cause more severe disease or if vaccines are fully effective against them.

We are doing extra testing in areas of the borough for a time-limited period to try to:

1. Find as many cases as possible to stop/slow spread
2. Learn more about the variants of concern.

There is currently no evidence that these variants cause more severe illness. Although the risk to the wider community is considered low, as a precaution, Tower Hamlets Council is working in collaboration with PHE and NHS Test and Trace to offer extra testing in targeted areas.

If you live in the following postcodes, we are strongly encouraging everyone over the age of 11 to **get tested, even if they are well or have been vaccinated**. This will help us to control the virus better and get us all back to living our normal lives sooner.

Postcodes:

All of E1 4** and E1 3**

Some of E1 0, E1 1, E1 2, E1 5, E14 7, E2 0, E2 6, E3 4.

You can check your postcode here - https://forms.towerhamlets.gov.uk/service/COVID_19_surge_test and check if you are being asked to get a test.

We are making tests more easily available:

1. At a new test unit at Goldman House, E1 4HQ from 8:30am to 3pm.

At other nearby test sites to the area:

- Idea Store Watney Market, 260 Commercial Street, E1 2FB
- Ecology Pavilion, Grove Rd, Bow, London E3 5TW

Appointments at these test sites can be booked online.

2. Tests can also be booked through the NHS Covid-19 app or by calling 119.
3. **If you have symptoms** you must book a test via the national portal.
4. Home testing tests will be available for collection and return at the sites below from 12pm to 6pm from Sunday 2 May to Tuesday 4 May:
 - Bethnal Green Gardens, off Cambridge Heath Road, immediately in front of Bethnal Green Library, E2 0HL.
 - Anchor Retail Park, 123 Mile End Rd, Stepney Green, London E1 4UJ, opposite the turning for Stepney Green.
 - Corner of Redmans Road and Stepney Green, north of Stepney Green Park, E1 3NG.
 - Tramshed Community Hub on Digby Street, E2 0LS (behind Albert Jacob House).

After being tested:

- You will receive your test results from NHS Test & Trace
- Whilst awaiting your results, you can carry on with normal activities (provided you and your household remain well)
- If you test POSITIVE, you and your household will need to self-isolate for 10 days
- If you test NEGATIVE, you do not need to isolate

Extra support is available to those who need it

- If you, or anyone in your household tests positive and needs to self-isolate for 10 days there is support available to help with things like food, money and medicine.
- Visit the council website: www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/covid-support. Or, call 020 7364 3030 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

The same national guidance continues to apply in areas where new variants have been identified and education settings can remain open.

Existing testing (using lateral flow tests) will continue in educational settings and parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can continue to access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Lateral Mass Testing

Tests should be taken on Mondays and Thursdays and all results – negative or positive are to be registered on the Government website - <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

If your child tests positive, please register this on the Government website and then let the school know as soon as possible. Do not send your child to school if they have a positive test result.

If your child becomes ill and receives a positive test result for Covid19, please email parents@mulberryacademyshoreditch.org with the details.

The details must include your child's name, tutor group and the positive test result that was sent to you by Public Health England in your email. You may also take a screen shot of this.

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.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Ruth Holden
Executive Principal

News this week from the Executive Principal

This has been an exciting week at the school with the staff and student running clubs really taking off!!!

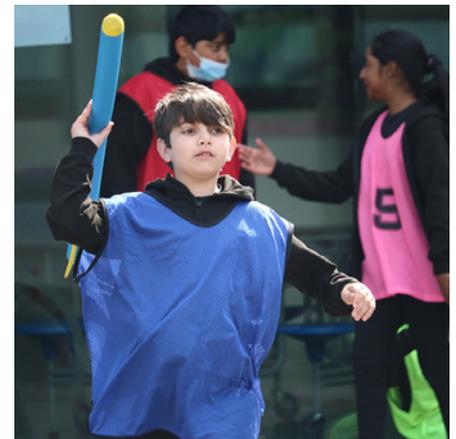
Also on Tuesday we had Year 8 Sports Day and on Thursday Year 7 Sports Day. It was simply brilliant to watch all the exciting activities and rather competitive races. Year 7 and 8 had lots of fun and Year 9 students did a great job of being Sports



coaches throughout the week.

What is really important about this is that students are getting lots of physical activity and also having much needed fun.

Well done to Year 11 and 13 who are completing two weeks of assessment as part of Teacher Assessed Grades.



Notices

All students must arrive at school by 8.35am. Any students arriving after 8.40am will be in supervised learning with senior staff.

Thank you,

Mrs Ruth Holden
Executive Principal

Sixth Form Update

We have so much going on in year 12 at the moment and I wanted to share with you some of the work our students are doing with external organisations during their Wednesday afternoon enrichment time.

On Wednesday 15 of our girls joined the Girls Network, an organisation funded by the Lord Mayors Appeal Fund. The Girls' Network is an award winning charity empowering girls from the least advantaged communities by connecting them with a mentor and a network of professional and inspiring women.

A large number of students are also beginning a series of projects with the Mark Evison Foundation. This foundation promotes the personal development of young people through the undertaking of challenges. Our students will be creating and planning projects which are personally challenging. These projects are designed to develop confidence, strength, resilience and breadth, as applicants take independent ownership of something they are keen to do. We can't wait to share the results of these projects next half term!

K. Frankum
Director of Sixth Form

JustGiving™

The last year has been extremely difficult for our students. As we come out of lockdown and our school begins to return to normal, there is an urgent need to give all our students the opportunity, not just to return to the classroom, but to have fun, to experience a trip somewhere, to feel the freedom of the seaside or a camping trip and to enrich their lives and undo the mental and emotional damage that lockdown will have caused. If you feel passionate about helping us to do this for our young people aged 11-18 - please donate to our JustGiving page - no matter how little or how much - you will make a difference to children's lives and we will acknowledge this. Please visit:

Donate at JustGiving

www.justgiving.com/mulberryschoolstrust

Sports Days for Year 7 and 8

This week has been a busy one in the PE Department! on Tuesday 4th May our Year 8s had their Sports Day followed by Year 7s on Thursday 6th May.

The days were great and our pupils enjoyed it so much. Our group of Year 9 helpers were absolutely amazing, running stations, supporting and helping our younger students. A big thanks to them!

Both days were so nice and given the last year's circumstances it made it even more enjoyable. The atmosphere was immense and students really embraced everything the day had to offer.

Here are some students comments about the day:

"It was really fun, so enjoyable and competitive. Made me feel very excited."
Tazwar, 7E

"It was so exciting. Loved the music too. The penalty shoot out was so much fun."
Rahil, 7A

"I really enjoyed it. Loved the skittles station."
Mohammed Ali Iman, 8D

"Loved how did the groups as people were comfortable in what they were doing. That made me really enjoy it."
Zaynah Uddin, 8D

"Sports day was very fun and interesting as we got to enjoy different activities that we normally don't do."
Jumara Begum, 8D



"Sports Day was really exciting. It gave everyone a chance to show what they can do. Everyone was included."
Wayne, 8D





"It was such a change to lessons. The activities were so fun. It was like a party feeling. We got to interact with the year 9's who made it fun too."

Zoï, 7D

Year 13 Forest Field Trip



During their field trip this week, Year 13 students were completing their required practical comparing the presence of plant species in the dark and light environments of Epping Forest.



"It was fun competitive something for everyone to do. No one was left out. We had such a laugh together."

Millie, 7D



Congratulations to Mohammed Abdul Baki, for winning the Debate Mate Cup. We're very proud of his achievement. He was awarded the prize following this statement by their mentor:

"I would like to nominate Mohammed because he is very proactive and his speeches are clear, articulate and has improved a lot in his speaking style, always conscious of the key tips and techniques when it comes to speaking."

Year 8 poetry workshop

A group of Year 8 students had the opportunity to work with Cecilia Knapp, a poet, playwright and novelist as well as the current Young Poets Laureate for London. They produced their own poems about someone that inspires them and presented it to the group. Look out for their fantastic poems which will soon be published in an Anthology by the English department.



Year 8 App Ideas



As part of the Gender Balance in Computing national research project, all of our year 8 students have the opportunity to speak with industry experts from charity Apps For Good. In their computer science lessons this fortnight, students have the opportunity to pitch their app ideas to experts from across the app development industry, as well as have their many questions answered. Highlights from this week included a discussion around the ethics of an app for self-driving cars and considering how app developers can make a profit. We're looking forward to more sessions next week!

TRAILFAM
THE MAS TRAIL RUNNING CREW

RUN IN NATURE
ENTER TRAIL RUNNING COMPETITIONS

YEAR 7 STUDENTS YOU CAN JOIN THE TEAM NOW!

FOR MORE INFO VISIT TRAILFAM.COM
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RUNNING WITH TRAILFAM SEE MR. STOKES

APPLY NOW
SPACES ARE LIMITED

Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK
MONDAY 17TH TO FRIDAY 21ST MAY 2021

SCIENCE WEEK

COMPETITIONS
for each year group

- Learning about different scientists in tutor time
- poster and research projects
- Periodic table element hunt

Year 7 have a full day of 'silly science' on Tuesday 18th

Year 8-Year 12 Career talks from people working in STEM

At home experiments to complete and take photos of

PRIZES TO BE WON!

Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

A Message from the STEM teachers

MULBERRY STEM ACADEMY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH 
MERCEDES-BENZ GRAND PRIX

"Being part of the STEM Team has been an amazing experience. It has been a privilege to watch the students engaged in different activities. These are life changing opportunities for our students. Year 12 are about to start their Extended Project and Year 10 will be learning to programme our robot.

I would like to thank Ms Gillott, Ms Scott and Ms Wills and Mr Hatton for their commitment to ensuring that the students on the STEM programme are as successful as they can be." **Ms Montgomerie**

"I have absolutely loved working with the STEM students! It has been an invaluable experience for them to be able to take the Python skills they've learned in Computer Science and apply them in 'the real world' as part of a team. I am especially looking forward to exploring the vast functionalities of our robot NAO1 with the Year 10s this half term. They will be able to apply much of the same logic as they've learned in Python, but in a different discipline using a state-of-the-art robot. It's been a great start to the academy and I'm excited to see what else our students accomplish this year!"
Ms Gillott



"It has been such a delight to see year 12 students flourish at the STEM Academy in partnership with Mercedes Grand Prix. Students have successfully finished their Python programming course and are excited to move on to researching and writing their Extended Project Qualification. The dedication

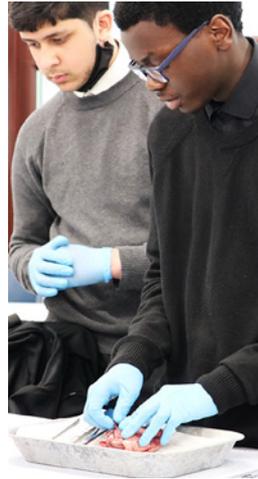
and motivation of our STEM students is amazing to see and we are all very proud of their achievements so far, and are excited to see them enter the next stage of the STEM Academy." **Ms Wills**

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the Y10 and Y12 students as a part of the STEM Academy and seeing them grow and develop their skills. Working with Mercedes Grand Prix truly has been inspiring and the students have been motivated to work harder than ever! I am very much looking forward to seeing continuing to see the students excel as a part of the STEM Academy."
Ms Scott



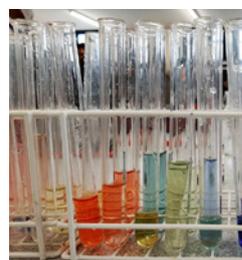
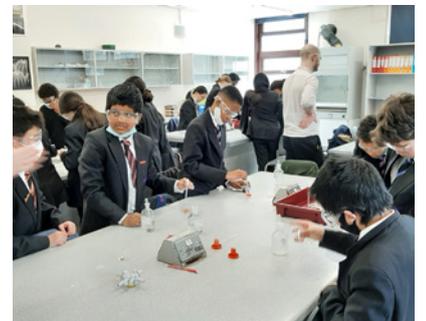
Year 12 Biology

Year 12 Biology students completed their first Biology required practical last Friday. Students had to work in groups to identify features of the heart and collect data on muscle size. Many were able to complete scientific drawings of the structures they saw.



Science Club is back!

Our first science club ran this week and it was a great success! Over 25 students showed up to learn about reactions of acids and alkalis and indicators, and created a pH colour chart rainbow by using neutralisation reactions. Well done Y7s! They will be testing out their skills using microscopes next week.



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Starting Monday 19th April '21

After school Sports

3.30pm-5.00pm

BASKETBALL, FOOTBALL, TENNIS, CRICKET, TABLE TENNIS, BADMINTON

Monday Year 7

Tuesday Year 8

Wednesday Year 9

Thursday Year 10

Friday Year 11

When it's your Year group night **COME DOWN AND PLAY CHALLENGE** THE PE STAFF

at a game of table tennis, badminton or tennis!

Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

WORD OF THE WEEK

Wow!

Accumulate

DEFINITION
To gradually collect or gather a large number of things over a period of time.

EXAMPLE
1. Tom had a messy bedroom. His parent didn't know how he'd managed to accumulate so much junk since the last tidy up!
2. The newly wed couple hoped to accumulate enough money to buy their own house in five years.

SYNONYMS
To pile up
To gather
To accrue

ANTONYMS
To separate
To shrink

CHARACTERISTICS
From the Latin word accumulatus meaning 'heaped up'.

ককিড-১৯ ভ্যাকসিন

Important information from the Bangla Covid-19 Advice Project

For important information about the Covid-19 vaccination roll-out, please read the leaflet [here](#) and watch the information video at <https://youtu.be/XQ37ueZcwQk>

Need to talk about Discrimination?

IF YOU ARE UPSET, OR WOULD LIKE TO TALK TO SOMEONE ABOUT HOW YOU FEEL REGARDING ANY TYPE OF DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING RACE, PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF STAFF:

Ms Tarannum Ms James Mr Beckerton Ms Scott Ms Earle

MULBERRY ACADEMY SHOREDITCH IS ANTI ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION

Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Did you manage to solve the maths problem this week?

A picture of a flag is to be completed by shading two squares that do not share an edge. The diagram shows one way in which this can be done.

How many different possible completed pictures are there (including the one shown)?

Solution
Answer: 8

If the squares are numbered 1 to 6, as shown.

1	3	5
2	4	6

The possible pairings are:
1 and 4
1 and 5
1 and 6
2 and 3
2 and 5
2 and 6
3 and 6
4 and 5