

The Sixth Form Scoop

Launching our new Sixth Form Newsletter

Hello and welcome to Mulberry Academy Shoreditch's first edition of The Sixth Form Scoop.

It has been an exceptionally busy start to the year and there have been many events, opportunities and enrichment activities that our sixth formers have been taking advantage of. Not only have students made an amazing start to lessons they have also had the opportunity to go on many trips including Thorpe Park, University of Sussex and many subject specific trips such as Geography and Biology field work and English students visiting Keat's House.

We have had numerous guest speakers visit the school to share their experiences with our students. These have included a Medical Student hosting a Q&A session for students applying for medicine, a physiotherapist, a judge and the Co-Head of Responsible



Sixth Form Open Evening



Medical Q&A



Talk by Jason Mitchell, Man Group

investment at Man Group to name just a few. We continue to share work experience opportunities with our students. These have included working with Teach First, Barristers in the City as well as many more

Our sixth formers have represented the Academy in many leadership positions, from House Leaders, Tower Hamlets Young major elections, attending sixth form fairs and attending the WCCSA Livery Dinner and the Installation Dinner. They have also been instrumental in recruiting students for next year sharing their experience and our amazingly well attended Open Evening on the 30th November. We are also excited to announce that we will be appointing our First Head Boy and Head Girl and their Team of deputies in the new year.

Our sixth form is very welcoming and inclusive and our new Mulberry students have settled in so well it feels like they have been with us their whole school career. We have enjoyed reading the fabulous scholarship essays and look forward to present £500 each to the winners.

Year 13 have been busy with mocks and UCAS. They approached the exams with a very focus and mature attitude and await "results day" on the 10th December. Many students have sent their application to ICAS and offers are coming in daily.

Student voice

We have recently surveyed our sixth form to ask them what their thoughts are on the sixth form. When asked what the best part of their sixth form experience has been so far the overwhelming responses was trips and the opportunities to make new friends. When asked about their lessons they said they loved the fact that their teachers were very supportive, and they liked the challenge of learning new things with likeminded peers. We are in the process of updating our enrichment offer to reflect the choices of our students



WCCSA Livery Dinner

In October, two of our 12 students and Mr Matsangos had the privilege of going to the Installation Dinner at the invitation of Edward Nicholl, one of our Governors. The boys had an amazing evening and really enjoyed meeting other guest at the event. Many thanks to Edward for having them, it was the highlight of their term!

New to Mulberry

Speaking as a student new to Mulberry Academy Shoreditch sixth form, I can confidently say MAS is the right fit for those looking for a sixth form that'll discard your worries immediately.

Not only does MAS have many welcoming and knowledgeable teachers but they also have many enrichment opportunities to go along with your A-levels. Speaking from experience I know how difficult it can be to hit a mental block when writing a CV and to realise grades aren't the only thing you need to include. Therefore MAS is unique in the fact that they offer a programme of enrichment

that'll add to more material for your CV which makes you more appealing and therefore more attractive to employers and universities. For example, for those who are interested in science subjects, MAS offers medical pathways. Not only that but the major trump card that MAS holds over other sixth forms would be its joint partnership with Mercedes-Benz Grand Prix Ltd. Lewis Hamilton himself has worked with MAS students and so could you. Just apply yourself. Finally, this brings me to thank the many teachers at MAS who helped me settle into the Sixth Form instantly and without hassle and the teachers who succeeded at introducing me to my subjects and are slowly bridging the gap between GCSEs and A-levels.
by Daud Digale, Year 12

The Sheriff's Challenge

Daud Digale, Maliha Nousheen, Salman Aziz, Amal Mohamed, Zara Heslop and Zuzanna Woszczynska make up this year's team for the Sheriff's Challenge 2022 which is based on improving the City of London. The team will be debating against other schools and are currently doing their research and meeting regularly in the hope to win this year's competition. Good luck to them!

Year 12 Scholarship Awards



Congratulations to all our Year 12 students who won a Sixth Form Scholarship Award on Wednesday 8th December! The quality of the written pieces that they submitted was fantastic. There were interesting essays on different subjects as diverse as The Ethics of Facial Recognition Software, Influential Black Leaders and the Environmental implications of Bitcoin mining. There were awards of £500 and £250 and we look forward to hearing about how they decide to spend the money awarded to enrich their life and learning! Well done to:

Congrats

Maksymillian Biskup
Zara Heslop
Callum Seagrave Ronan
Mohammed Usamah Chowdhury
Mohamed Abokor
Abid Ahsan
Farzana Begum
Fuad Alvi
Frederick Peter Hoveman Cox
Salma Hussein
Jamila Ibrahim
Jesan Islam
Taher Mahmud Kadir
Sonia Mehregan
Gerardas Montydas

Mikas Stankevicius
Imran Ahmed Kamal
Brecken Davies
Fatima Zahra
Safoan Miah
Celsisse Hamilton
Sharif Hamza Khan
Shahida Islam
Amal Mohamed
Daud Dhoush Digale
Arpo Debnath
Salman Aziz
Maliha Nousheen
Turker Yayan



Days out together



It's been an exciting first term for Sixth Form with lots of trips taking place. Year 12 enjoyed a fun day of bonding at the theme park Thorpe Park at the beginning of September and the whole of Year 12 were invited to visit Sussex University. We went to



Sussex University over 2 different days, students had tours of the campus from students and had the opportunity to ask lots of questions about university life. Students also managed to have lots of fun at Brighton beach and pier before heading home.

K+ at Kings

We are always sharing amazing work experience opportunities and university programmes with our Sixth Form. Many students have been successful with their applications. King's College London came to speak to students to launch their London K+ programme, congratulations to Marwan Dahir, Nayeem Haque and Yusef Azad who were successful in securing a place. Over 160 applications were received for 30 places so they did exceptionally well.

STEM Academy

Mulberry Stem Academy in partnership with Mercedes-Benz Grand Prix Ltd has recently been launched and Year 12 students have been working hard on their applications. The Academy will give students the opportunity to build their very own green powered cars, experience Python programming and robotics. We are really looking forward to welcoming successful applicants into the programme for this year.



Enrichment Wednesdays

Year 12 and 13 have a dedicated enrichment afternoon every Wednesday and have the opportunity to choose from a variety of choices such as martial arts, jewelry making, strength training, yoga, London Culture club, Model UN, working towards a CREST award or



participating in a Pathways to Medicine course. It's been lovely to see students really embrace trying out new activities and learn new skills. Highlights include seeing Fatima Zahra making beautiful rings in jewellery design session and Abid Miah and Mahfuz Ahmed with their consistent determination and energy in Bootcamp and boxing sessions. Muhammad Imtiyaz Bin Ashraf also made an impressive moving car in carpentry.

Thank you

Thank you to all the Sixth Form Ambassadors that helped out tirelessly on our Year 6 Open Mornings – they did a great job of showing parents around school and telling them what life at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch is all about. We had the pleasure of taking Fred Cox, Logan Carver, Ahsan Ziban Islam, Imran Kamal, Yusef Azad, Mikas Stankevicius, Brecken Davies, Afsana Ali Begum, Amal Mohamed, Maliha Nousheen, Callum Seagrave, Mohamed Abokor, Md. Samiul Hoque Suhel, Maria Loskor, Zuzanna Woszczynska and Rosina Barbara to Nandos for a lovely lunch in mid-November to celebrate.



What's the 'Big Idea'? How to tie your shoelaces whilst listening to Bach and reading Tolstoy, and of course, going Trailfam! This is the MAS SIXTH FORM Teaching and Learning Update!

In our quest to make T&L at MAS Sixth Form even better, our focus this term has been to keep building upon our well-established work on the following themes: 'Threshold Concepts', the Science of Learning' and 'Cultural Capital'.

At the start of the new term, the Sixth Form T&L group explored 'Threshold Concepts' to ensure that we really are prioritising those topics which our students simply cannot get by without... Literature on Threshold Concepts, sometimes more helpfully described as 'Big Ideas', suggest that they are transformative - that is, once a student grasps a Threshold Concept it changes the way they think and feel about the subject. Another way to think about a Threshold Concept is that which is integrative - once learned, the concept helps unify aspects of the subject that may not have (initially) appeared related. Identifying these 'Big Ideas' has helped teachers and students comprehend how smaller discrete topics fit into a bigger picture. This is a constantly evolving process, and increasingly important considering the need to make up for lost time as a result of the pandemic whilst looking ahead to adaptations to the summer exams 2022.

Knowing what we will teach was followed by T&L focus on how to teach. We focused specifically on a 'Science of Learning' principle called 'chunking'. (Chunking allows people to take smaller bits of information and combine them into a more meaningful and memorable whole). Think about how effortlessly you can tie shoelaces, once you know the steps involved of course! And how planning learning

activities to support students to chunk can enable them more easily take on complex tasks during lessons.

Towards the end of this term, we turned our attention to how to incorporate subject specific Cultural Capital within our curricula. Cultural Capital comprises an individual's social assets (education, intellect, and their knowledge and appreciation of arts, leisure, culture) that promote social mobility. I think it is fair to say (thanks to the incredible array of extra-curricular opportunities provided by the school's Houses, the Student Charter and weekly Sixth Form Enrichment) that we did not need to look very far at all to find

examples of cultural experiences with which to enhance the learning of subject knowledge in our classrooms. Our sixth formers have a growing appreciation for cultural capital as crucial to stimulating their curiosity, and not as a mere add-on.

A huge thanks to the brilliant team of '21 Sixth Form Teacher Champions' who represent our incredible range of sixth form subjects. Their energy, enthusiasm and creative input is what makes us a truly outstanding place to work and learn. I must also mention our team of sixth form student ambassadors who provide such insightful student voice so that we can be sure of our impact 'on the ground', whilst making sixth form life as fun and dynamic as it can possibly be!

**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year 2022**
Mr Pani Matsangos

Q1. What is Cultural Capital?
Q2. Are the following examples of cultural capital?
Q3. Which is 'worth more'? Why?

running in the woods?



Black Tie 'Installation Dinner at Saddlers' Hall'?



'The best that has been thought and said'?



Cultural Capital comprises an individual's social assets (education, intellect, style of speech, dress, etc.) that promote social mobility.

Bourdieu & Marx... 'more capital one has, more powerful position one occupies in social life'.

"...learn about and name things that are, for many, outside their daily experience."



UN Convention on the Rights of the Child Article 31 (leisure, play and culture) Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Cultural capital

2013 As part of making the judgement about the quality of education, inspectors will consider the extent to which schools are equipping pupils with the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life. Our understanding of 'knowledge and cultural capital' is derived from the following wording in the national curriculum (2013).

"It is the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement."

Ofsted say that it is up to you to decide what is 'essential knowledge' for your pupils

See if you can memorise these 13 letters in under 10 seconds:

F P Q C V O I Y M R F S A
F Y I R S V P F A Q C O M

Get your skates on

To celebrate the exemplary attendance and punctuality of fifty year 13 students, we took them to the scenic Canary Wharf Ice Rink. Students enjoyed whizzing round against the impressive back drop of the city sky scrapers and there was a festive feel all round.



key dates

UCAS internal deadline
10th January 2022

Y13 Parents' Evening
10th January 2022

Sixth form interviews
w/b 17th Jan 2022