

# Word on the Street

STUDENT NEWS AND VIEWS



## Training Session for our new Prefects

In October 2021, we opened up applications for Year 10 Prefects.

In October 2021, we opened up applications for Year 10 Prefects. We received some brilliant submissions and recruited nineteen Prefects, among whom five were made Lead Prefects. Their names and details can be found on our 'Student Leaders' display!

Since then, our Year 10 Prefects have attended a launch and leadership training session hosted by The Life Skills Company, while also carrying out their weekly duties to the highest standard. Below, our Prefects share their thoughts about the role so far.

**Mahek Yasmin (Lead Prefect):** During Prefect training, we explored how to appropriately respond to misbehaviour; essentially, by maintaining a calm

composure before establishing the relevant consequences and choices. We also explored our personal strengths and weaknesses, before finally applying all that we had learned in realistic role-play. In our final presentations, five prefects delivered their own speeches about what they are most passionate about and, though a little scary, we all found that in the end we had accumulated useful public speaking skills!

**Mariya Ahmed:** during our training, we understood how to reach well-informed decisions in varying scenarios and how a Prefect should be a role model within the school environment to help maintain a peaceful atmosphere. So far in the role, I have really enjoyed carrying out my Prefect lunch duties as



I am able to converse with new people, and support peers and teachers in the library.

**Fahmida Rashid (Lead Prefect):** As a student leader, I have been able to step outside my comfort zone through the social aspect of my duties. This has included talking to new people, setting boundaries for younger students, and public speaking. Such experiences have certainly contributed to my increasing confidence!

## Debate Mate

Having attended Debate Mate for a few sessions, I've found that it is a great way to improve communication and understanding among peers. One activity during which this was most evident was when five pupils were allocated the role of a famous figure and the rest of the group decided who they would 'save' in a hot air balloon. I remember deciding with my group that we should save Nelson Mandela because Albert Einstein would be able to calculate a way to escape anyway! Our Debate Mate sessions are formatted so that we can both accumulate our skills and



apply them too. During the debating segment, we discuss interesting issues like women's rights which is really fun especially when you're going up against your peers!

**Lonis-Adam Fergus, Year 8**





# MAS Foodbank Collection

**Did you know that food bank use in London has increased by over 100% in the last year? Did you know that 17 out of every 30 children in the UK are living in poverty?**

On Monday 6th December 2021, we at Mulberry Academy Shoreditch are commencing our annual food bank drive. Poverty in Tower Hamlets has become more and more apparent and the pandemic has only made things more challenging. However, through this food bank, we can collectively give back to the community and those that are less fortunate. It is a great opportunity for everyone to get involved and support those who are in need. During winter, many people in our communities lack basic necessities such as toiletries, hygiene products and food. As part of our food bank collections, students are encouraged to bring in as many non-perishable items

as they can which will then be donated to organisations within Tower Hamlets. Additionally, the top six house forms to donate the most items will receive a generous prize – although we can all agree that charity is its own reward! At MAS we believe that children in

Tower Hamlets should get the best possible start in life, alongside the same opportunities as other young people. Undoubtedly, the food bank drive is a great place to start!

**Ahsan Ziban Islam and Jumaanah Kaha, Year 12**



# Running the Brecon Beacons



**I really enjoyed going to Wales as part of TrailFam, as I was able to run one of the highest mountains in Wales while also overcoming one of my biggest fears.**

The best thing about going is that I made new friends and we took part in lots of fun activities with Mr. Stokes and Ms. Bartlett over the weekend. On the first day, not everyone was feeling energetic but we still managed to reach the summit of Waun Fach (3000ft) which was our first mountain of the weekend. The next day we reached the summit of two more mountains, both of which were over



2900ft! The first mountain was a bit scary because it was raining and I was scared of slipping on a rock. My experience of running on the second mountain on the last day was amazing; even though it was a smaller and less-daunting mountain, it was incredibly windy and it did take us some time to reach the top because

of its steepness. When we reached the summit Mr. Stokes joked that there was a castle even though there were only rocks! Mr Stokes definitely kept us laughing throughout the weekend. This was such a fun trip, and I am so grateful to Mr. Stokes and Ms. Bartlett for the amazing opportunity.

**Lisbeth Gaucho Araujo, Year 7**

# House of Fun at HouseCon '21



HouseCon 2021 was incredibly fun for those who attended: there were activities such as bake sales, sports games and a raffle for each House.

HouseCon 2021 was incredibly fun for those who attended: there were activities such as bake sales, sports games and a raffle for each House. We also heard from Heads of House and student leaders from all year groups, while Mr McCabe decided to challenge students and parents in table tennis but won every game unscathed! After her success at the House Fun Day, Patty (a brilliant face painter) returned to add some sparkle through her creative designs (as seen on the faces of many pupils, parents and teachers!). There was also lots of delicious free food including wedges, biryani and macaroni and cheese, while our House merchandise stall sold stylish keychains, bags and clothing to many enthusiastic customers.

Ultimately, it was an opportunity to learn about the House system in the most enjoyable of ways while meeting the teams behind the magic!  
Mahdi Islam, Year 8



# Spread kindness for Anti-Bullying week



Anti-Bullying Week takes place every November and is organised by the Anti-Bullying Alliance to reinforce the message that kindness can truly change someone's life.

During assemblies on anti-bullying, House Leaders discussed the difficulties of lockdown, and how kindness kept many of us going. Students were also regaled with stories about some individuals who showed incredible kindness and

## 5 Key Kindness Questions

1. Am I kind to myself?
2. Am I kind to others?
3. Are people kind to me?
4. Do I understand when people are kind to me?
5. Do I help people who are being bullied?

**Marcus Rashford**  
We are not kind to be noticed. We are kind because it's the right thing to do. It feels good to help others.

**ONE KIND WORD**

Small acts of kindness can go a really long way. There is a lot of power in understanding and compassion. A listening ear and a kind word is sometimes all it takes...

Keep shining and keep smiling.

MIRA x ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

## What can you do to be kind?

- Listen
- Hold open the door
- Be encouraging
- Smile
- Put your phone away and give someone your full attention
- Help out, without being asked
- Invite someone new into your friendship group
- Pick up your litter
- Sit with someone eating alone
- Say please and thank you
- Send a kind note or card
- Give a genuine compliment

**ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE** #ANTI-BULLYINGWEEK

changed the lives of many during the lockdown. We delivered the assembly as a reminder that while bullying is not something that can be eradicated overnight, everyone should try to be kind as it is a small but powerful way to spread happiness. Our pledge as a

school is to be kind and start a ripple effect of kindness: the ripple effect refers to the spreading effects of an action, and kindness is definitely a wonderful thing to be spreading.

Maymuna Rahaman, Year 9



# Inter-House Spelling Bee

On Wednesday 17th of November 2021, students from all six houses competed in the Inter-house Spelling Bee.

It was a tense atmosphere, as students were required to spell words of increasing difficulty with each round; we were puzzled by complex words such as 'amoeba' and 'necessary' and even some of the judges were stumped by the word 'stingy'! Eventually the remaining students (who were all members of Globe house) were challenged with the highest degree of difficulty. Dylan Ellis in Year 7, who was runner-up, held the floor for more time



than twenty of the other competitors combined! In the end, the person who came first was Eleni Brooks in Year 9, the resident Communications Officer and wordsmith of Globe House.

Why not hold your own Spelling Bee with the following words? Only one is

spelled correctly. Good luck!  
'correspondance'  
'miscelaneous'  
'mediterranean'  
'mayonnaise'  
'necessary'

**Eleni Brooks, Year 8**

# Barbican Bake Sale Buzz

**The Barbican Bake Sale has been so successful! It has been such a fun experience serving food to our peers and teachers (even though it's difficult not to eat on the job!).**

**Shanjidah:** I joined the Bake Sale efforts in order to showcase my marketing skills, which I have already been able to work on because my dad owns a restaurant that I help out with! I am often persuading customers to opt for a more filling meal than the one they initially select!

**Thomas:** my dad is a pub Area Manager, so being part of this bake sale has given me so much of the experience and skills I need to help my dad, I definitely think I can help him come up with some creative ideas. I'll also understand what he means when he says words like 'grossing' or 'profit'

**Shanjidah:** One key reason I joined in with the Bake Sale is because of the cause that is being supported, I think it's really important to help those in

need.

**Thomas:** it's an added bonus that we get House Points for our involvement and can become more visible members of our House.

**Shanjidah:** I've also been able to build some important skills. When one student gave me £5 for two 30p items, it was almost chaos looking for change!

**Thomas:** that happened to me too - I received £2 for a 50p item, but eventually I got the right change. It can be really stressful, but it is also incredibly fun.

**Shanjidah:** I would definitely recommend that everyone gets involved next time because we've been able to develop so many skills, like knowing how to handle money and developing self-discipline.

**Thomas:** in preparation for next time, I'm going to teach myself how to bake so I can bring in a cake. I can already make a pork schnitzel!

**Thomas Garvey and Samiyah Shanjidah Miah, Year 7**



## Daring to Present a House Assembly

Towards the end of November 2021 I was given the opportunity to present a House assembly on one of our values: that of being 'daring'. I planned my presentation by writing down key information and reading it over multiple times, even though that didn't do much for my nerves the first time I presented! Fortunately, after presenting multiple assemblies, I began feeling confident. Presenting in assembly was definitely useful as I can demonstrate that I have had many important and interesting responsibilities during my time at secondary school. Having completed these assemblies, I feel proud that I have been able to take ownership of my leadership role at Barbican.

**Rima Chowdhury, Year 8**