

# Word on the Street

STUDENT NEWS AND VIEWS



## International Women's Day

On Friday 8th March, the school celebrated International Women's Day along with the whole school.

Staff shared their career journeys and their experiences as women with students in a beautiful display in the Street. This year's theme was "Inspire Inclusion".

Several activities took place to mark the occasion, including an event run by the English Department sharing the powerful female authors and poets that have inspired teachers! Elsewhere in the school, girls from a range of year groups had an assembly celebrating both their achievements in school and the achievements of women around the world. Several influential female speakers in important professional roles (such as Joanna Abeyie MBE, Founder and CEO of Blue Moon & Partners) delivered workshops for some of our

girls and several of our Sixth Form students were invited to have Afternoon Tea the CEO of Mulberry Schools Trust, Dr Vanessa Ogden CBE. Throughout the day, there was a real sense of the camaraderie, celebration, and joviality that characterise life at MAS.



*'I attended one of the IWD workshops and had a wonderful experience. For an hour, we designed and brought to life an abstract goals board made from magazines. We also met an inspirational woman who talked to us about her life and experience with IWD. Overall, it was a very comfortable morning.'* Rahema Islam Y7



## Prefects



The Year 10 Prefects, who were selected at the beginning of this academic year, have been carrying out their weekly lunch duties this term and taking advantage of their early lunch duties to perform this role. They are now sporting gold and purple badges upon their blazers which lets other students know that they are a member of our student community that they can

rely on for guidance, particularly those younger or newer students who are still getting used to their timetables and the layout of the school. Next term, Prefects are going to begin carrying out uniform checks during form times so watch out for that.

*'I have been enjoying having early lunches before carrying out my lunch*

*duty each week. As a Head Prefect, I register the other Prefects doing their duties. I feel like this gives me power within the school community. I look forward to next term when I will be doing uniform checks' An anonymous prefect Y10*

# Student Council

**Student Council has elected several students to fulfil crucial roles in their fortnightly meetings.**

Well done to Kezieah Williams-Boothe (Chair), Isra Chowdhury (Deputy Chair), Qailah Ahmed (Secretary), Md Zain Sharif (Deputy Secretary), Marwa Anwar (Time Keeper). A huge congratulations for your elections to these posts! The Student Council has already had a hugely productive meeting with Mrs Gibson to introduce themselves to our Headteacher as well as to discuss several topics which they wanted. There is an exciting student-led day coming up in Summer Term. Watch this space...

Students are reminded to speak to their Council representatives about issues they are having or suggestions they have for fun and new events to implement at MAS. You can identify them by their shiny red Student Council badges. Please also feel free to come along to the meetings which happen every Friday Week A during lunch in room 301.

'As a member of the Student Council, we have lots of different jobs and roles to do. So far, our Chair, Kezieah, tells us the agenda. We keep "minutes" which is when our Secretary writes what we have discussed in the meeting. Recently, we've discussed a having a Wellbeing Day. Several councillors had a meeting with our Head of School, discussing what students can do with the school and how we can make it more convenient for students and staff.' Nihal Kurapati 7E

'On the 5th March, 3 counsellors had a meeting with Ms. Gibson to discuss several things, one of them being the possibility of a student wellbeing day. Here are some things that may happen: a series of afternoon workshops (art-related, such as friendship bracelet making, sports-related, or a film screening). We also discussed potentially setting up a vote for what students would like for lunch. Not only that but a special breakfast may happen e.g. pastries and orange juice etc...' NA, YH and MH (Student Councillors)

## New ways to communicate in our lessons

In the latter half of this half term, students have been becoming familiar with seeing and using a new school-wide initiative called Think, Turn, Talk, Tell. This is an extension of the already-existing Talk Tactics and Think, Pair, Share. However, the recent update helps students to focus not just on their speaking skills but also on their non-verbal communication by encouraging them to 'Turn' and ensuring they face one another when they are speaking, a skill which is highly valuable throughout life yet often overlooked!

This has been a great success this half term. Fingers crossed students have plenty of opportunity to flex these skills in their well-deserved Easter holidays...



## Student News and Views

'I was intrigued on my trip to the Globe theatre and saw its amazing and rich history. The best thing I saw was the stage where there were lots of ornately decorated columns. I felt as though I had travelled back to the Renaissance era.' Ihsan Khan 7F

'I really enjoyed going to the cinema in Stratford as a reward for my contributions to the house system. I had a great experience and Argylle was a truly extraordinary film.' Md Yusuf Alam 7F



'The ski trip to Sestriere was brilliant, with huge snow-topped mountains and the lovely quiet village. I enjoyed this trip because it was so nice and welcoming and the picturesque views were jaw-dropping. When we were skiing, I felt exhilarated as we were very high up. I loved it! 5/5 stars!' Ben O'Berry 7F



Three lucky students went to see A Mirror at the Trafalgar Theatre in Whitehall last week. This experience was captivating, with lots of audience participation. The main lead of the play, actor Johnny Lee Miller, actually chatted with us and fist-bumped Melissa Kibrom in Yg!



# Debate Mate

We have had a plethora of successes for Debate Mate this half term: the Accelerate program students have been planning and pitching a project to MAS staff. Their project focused on food wastage from the canteen.



Debate Mate Accelerate 'Food Wastage' Project Pitch

We have had a plethora of successes for Debate Mate this half term: the Accelerate program students have been planning and pitching a project to MAS staff. Their project focused on food wastage from the canteen. Mr Souagui, Head of Catering, spoke with students about the challenges with and solutions to wasted food and students, in response, let him know several of their ideas for tackling this problem!

*'Debate Mate is a club which helps to develop our confidence skills through debating. Recently, a group of students took part in the Urban Debate League. Round 1 took place in person at a school in South London. We were given 2 debate topics and put into either Proposition or Opposition. Unfortunately for us, we lost the first debate but we managed to take the victory in the second debate by making out points score strong. Later, we found out that we were through to the second round, which was being held online. Once again, we won the first debate. In our second debate, we competed against students that weren't very professional which meant that we had to be even more professional. We lost this round which we were disappointed by. In spite of this, our experience has made us more resilient and we eagerly await our next competition!' Marwa Anwar Y7*

Our Debate Mate Club, every Wednesday after school, has transformed shy, reserved students into confident and eloquent speakers, many of whom attended the UDL. As a result of our performance in Round 2, MAS was ranked 25th in the entire country and 14th in London. We hope to continue along this trajectory of victory!!!

Debate Mate Club- takes place every Wednesday in 302 3:30-4:30—please speak to Ms Roebuck in the English Department if you would be interested in taking part for the last few weeks of the program. Snacks always provided!! It is worth noting that all the students who competed in Round 2 of the UDL

were entirely novice to Debate Mate and new to MAS. A very big well done to Benjamin O'Berry, Marwa Anwar, Zoya Jakub, Maryam Kamaly and Bella-May Hutchenson all from Year 7 who performed in this round. Out of 68 schools in London competing, we are ranked as NINTH across the entire city! A huge win for MAS!!!

*'As of a few weeks ago, I joined the Debate Mate club. I did this because I want to improve my ability to speak in front of an audience because this is something I have always found challenging. At the beginning of the year, I felt like it was too daunting but now I feel much more confident so decided to sign up. Sometimes, speaking in the club, I still feel nervous about what others might think. However, this doesn't get in the way of me attending. The club is supportive and we are able to laugh and joke with one another which always makes me feel less nervous. I would really recommend Debate Mate particularly to students who are perhaps more shy. It's never too late to join...'*

As of Wednesday, 20th March, Mulberry Academy Shoreditch is ranked 17th



Trip to Notre Dame Catholic Secondary Girls' School, where students won one of their debates

place out of 98 on the National Secondary Core leadership board (<https://debatemate.org/secondary-urban-debate-league-2023/>) Unfortunately, this means that we were just ONE place away from qualifying for the finals which will take place in May and June. However, all is not lost!!! Six MAS students will be attending the Debate Mate Cup (separate from the Urban Debate League) next term so hopefully we can end victorious here! This will take place within a university setting and will be a great opportunity for the students to build their confidence outside of a school environment.



# Global Girl Leading

Global Girl Leading is a leadership development program 'by girls, for girls', which was initially started by our sister school, Mulberry School for Girls, which pioneered this ongoing project.

It was set up in 2016 following Michelle Obama's visit to the school. This year the program's crescendo consists of a day-long Global Girl Leading Summit on Friday 11th October 2024. This will take place at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in Westminster, where speakers and students from around the world will come together to discuss and celebrate women's leadership at local, national and global levels.

For this, three of MAS's girls have been carefully selected (a difficult decision amidst all the female excellence on show within the school's walls) to

attend a steering group, which is where students from across the trust gather to discuss how to further develop systems for girls to excel within education and within society more widely. At the most recent one, our students enjoyed sitting in a mock-up boardroom style environment at the Mulberry School for Girls to acquaint themselves with one another. In attendance was the recently elected Youth Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Fetuma Hassan. All students were invited to share their most treasured female role model in their lives and, despite the criteria extending to women with celebrity status, almost



half of the attendees cited their own mother as the individual who had inspired them and shaped them into the young women sat together around the table. This is an illuminating testimony to the sacrifices made by mothers for their daughters as well as to the gratitude demonstrated by the girls across Mulberry Schools Trust.

Well done to Naima Da Silva and Lilah Jazz Pacheco, both from Year 9, and Diana Lita, from Year 12, for being selected to take part in this year's edition of the program. Mulberry Academy Shoreditch is certainly not short of amazing women and young girls who excel in their academic and personal lives!

## A Trip to Central London to Celebrate Women in STEM

Last week, 10 Year 9 girls travelled to South Kensington to attend a deeply inspiring event held at the Royal Geographical Society called 'Inspiring Careers of the Future'. The event was focused upon women in STEM and encouraging girls to raise their aspirations, particularly to entering male-dominated and white-dominated fields of work. The event was put on

by The Female Lead, an enormously successful global charity with millions of followers, which helps to shape a fairer and more equal society for women, in work and in life.

In attendance was the Director of GCHQ, Anne Keast-Butler, the UK's intelligence, security and cyber agency as well as hugely successful women leading and working within Google, EA (Electronic



Arts) and the digital fashion company, Institute of Digital Fashion. These speakers told our students how they had achieved what they had achieved and shared advice about how women and young girls can assert their personal and professional rights within roles typically populated by male candidates. All students were really engaged with the speakers and had the opportunity to stay behind to ask questions. The event was an insight into the world of work for leading female experts across influential companies and it was a huge privilege for MAS to be part of this.

It's not everyday that you get to speak to the Director of British spies!!!



**CLASSICAL GREEK CLUB**

**Mondays 15:40-16:40**

**Learn to read and write in Classical Greek**

Achieve a UCAS recognised certificate in Classical Greek

**Open to all interested students and staff**

Please see Ms Padfield to sign up

**Mulberry Academy Shoreditch**

**BOOK CLUB**

**BOOKWORMS IN YEAR 7 8 OR 9 WELCOME!**

**MONDAY WEEK B AT LUNCHTIME IN THE LIBRARY**

WE'LL DISCUSS A VARIETY OF TEXTS AND WILL CHOOSE BOOKS WITH STUDENT VOTES!

SIGN UP IN THE LIBRARY!

**SEE MS ROEBUCK OR MR KOBLER FOR MORE INFO**