

Principal: Ms Melissa Gibson, MA, MPhil

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Families,

Well done to Year 11 who have completed their first week of mock exams. Attendance to school has been high and we are incredibly proud of our students for the maturity and effort they have shown.

It was also really lovely to see so many families at Year 8 and Year 13 Parents' Evenings. The school was busy, full of positive energy, and it was wonderful to have meaningful conversations with you all.

### **Christmas Events at MAS**

As we move into the festive season, we are delighted to share the upcoming events taking place at the school;

- |                                       |                             |                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| • Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Winter Arts Showcase        | 3.45pm - 5.00pm |
| • Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December  | Winter Fayre                | 4.00pm - 5.30pm |
| • Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December  | Christmas Jumper Day*       |                 |
| • Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December | Christmas lunch             |                 |
| • Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December    | Last Day of Term (Half Day) |                 |

*\*For Christmas Jumper Day, students may wish to wear a jumper that is of festive spirit and represents the winter Christmas theme. Alternatively, students can wear full school uniform if they prefer.*

Please attend the evening events and invite your friends and family to come along and celebrate with us.

### **Parking outside of the school**

We kindly remind parents and carers not to park on the zig-zag lines at the front of the school. These areas must be kept clear to ensure the safety of our students as they cross the road. Thank you for helping us to keep our school community safe. Please turn your car engines off during pick up and drop off to consider our neighbours and air quality of the school.

Yours faithfully,



Ms Melissa Gibson  
Principal

Part of the

**Mulberry**  
Schools Trust





## Executive Principal's and Principal's News

It's been a busy week here at MAS this week. Year 11 and 13 students have started their mock exams which are going well. We have welcomed visitors from East Sussex and it was great to see so many families at Tuesday's parents evening for Year 8 and Year 12 vocational students. There were lots of positive conversations about student's progress.



### Getting ready for festivities

On Wednesday it was lovely to listen to the choir singing festive songs in preparation for the WinterArts



Showcase and Winter Fayre and, on Thursday after school, students used their creative talents to paint signs and decorations ready for the Winter Fayre.

The Winter Arts Showcase will take place on Wednesday 10th December and the Winter Fayre will take place on Thursday 11th September.

### Young Mayor elections

Next week the very exciting Young Mayor elections will take place and all students will participate in voting



to exercise their democratic right and to vote for one of our three student candidates.

Best of luck to all three - it would be great to see one of our students elected as the Young Mayor of Tower Hamlets.

Thank you,  
**Mrs Ruth Holden**,  
Executive Principal  
**Ms Melissa Gibson**,  
Principal

## Sixth Form News

Well done to all Year 13 students who have completed their mock exams this week, and to those sitting them next week. A full set of mock exams will take place in January, and the timetable for these will be shared with you soon.

Congratulations to the Year 13 students taking part in the Diana Award mentoring and leadership programme. This initiative recognises young people who are committed to creating positive change in their communities, and our students have

already shown real maturity and leadership in their sessions so far.

It has been another strong week for enrichment. Year 12 students took part in a wide range of activities, with ice skating proving to be a seasonal favourite once again.

A huge well done to the newly selected Student Leadership Team. They will be meeting with Mrs Gibson next week for brunch to discuss their roles and the exciting opportunities ahead.

Good luck to the students completing work experience placements at local hospitals this week. We hope you enjoy the experience and gain valuable insight into the world of healthcare.

## Much Ado About Numbers

On Wednesday this week, students attended Prof. Rob Eastaway's engaging talk Much Ado About Numbers, exploring the surprising links between Shakespeare and mathematics. They learned how Tudors multiplied, why the number seven mattered, and how Shakespeare played with the idea of 'nothing,' alongside fascinating insights into Renaissance calendars, music, and magic. It was an inspiring session that revealed just how connected every subject was in Shakespeare's world.



Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

# WORD OF THE WEEK

Wow!

## Ambiguous

adjective

**DEFINITION**

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

**EXAMPLE**

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

**SYNONYMS**

Unclear  
Uncertain  
Puzzling  
Doubtful

**ANTONYMS**

clear, obvious, precise

**CHARACTERISTICS**

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



# Inspiring Futures at MAS

Last Friday, our Year 9 students took part in an exciting and inspiring Careers Day, designed to broaden their understanding of the world of work and spark curiosity about future pathways. Rather than a traditional careers fair, students enjoyed classroom-based sessions, giving them the unique opportunity to hear personal career journeys and advice directly from visiting professionals. We were proud to welcome 33 guests, representing a wide range of sectors including STEM, Healthcare, Government, Law, Finance, Creative Industries, Education, Accounting, and Sustainability. Their generosity in sharing their stories, challenges, and successes helped our students gain valuable insight into the diverse career

possibilities ahead of them. Throughout the day, students engaged in discussions about skills, qualifications, career pathways, and the realities of different professions. Many guests spoke about their own experiences at school, offering relatable and motivating guidance that left a strong impression on our young people.

A huge thank you to all of our visitors for giving up their time to support our students and for helping make the day such a meaningful experience. Their contributions have sparked new ambitions and encouraged students to think more deeply about their futures. We look forward to building on this momentum with further careers events across the academic year.



# Made in the East End

Over the past two weeks, Societies students in Year 9 have been working with the poet Shareefa Energy as part of the Made in the East End project organised in collaboration with the local museum, Oxford House.

Oxford House has a long legacy of grassroots activism and of working with creatives to facilitate expression through creativity. They are continuing to build on that tradition today through the Made in the East End project, celebrating local voices and championing accessibility to the arts. Shareefa and students will explore East London's rich history of community publishing and working-class writing. They will draw inspiration from our archives and the legacy of many community groups such as the Basement Writers, a powerful collective of working-class writers active in East London during the 1970s.

The new writing will be printed in an anthology and distributed across Tower Hamlets. There will be a launch

event at Oxford House theatre in May 2026, where the young writers will share their work with their peers, families, teachers and the wider community.

**More about the poet: Shareefa Energy**

Shareefa Energy is a working-class Indian, and an award-winning poet, writer, producer, storyteller, activist, educator, community organiser and anti-racism creative campaigner, based in Leicester and London. She is the author of the poetry collection



# Allianz Careers Fair

Last Tuesday, our Year 10 students visited Twickenham Stadium for the Allianz Inspire the Future Careers Fair. The event gave pupils the chance to explore a wide range of career paths through interactive stalls, workshops, and talks led by professionals from industries including finance, technology, sport and digital media.

Students enjoyed hands-on activities—such as virtual-reality training demos—and heard from apprentices who shared real-life insights into the world of work. The speakers emphasised key skills like resilience, curiosity and confidence, offering valuable guidance as students begin to consider their future options.

Our Year 10s represented the school brilliantly, asking thoughtful questions and engaging enthusiastically throughout the day. It was an inspiring and informative visit that helped broaden their understanding of the opportunities ahead.



Galaxy Walk, endorsed by the late Benjamin Zephaniah.

Her poetry has featured on BBC The One Show, Channel 4 and ITV. Shareefa has performed at the Royal Albert Hall, on the London Eye, the Houses of Parliament, the Southbank Centre, and the Flamenco Festival, amongst various festivals.

Her work ranges from advocating for holistic health utilising nature, to not shying away from the inequalities which exist overseas and on our doorsteps. [www.shareefaenergy.com](http://www.shareefaenergy.com)





# Y12 Elephant Group Induction Event

A group of top achieving year 12 students had the opportunity to hear from and talk to representatives and students from top third/Russell Group Universities. They were very engaged and are looking forward to the many opportunities provided by the Elephant Group.



# CanSat club

This week in CanSat Club, students have just submitted their Preliminary Design Report to the UK Space Education Office and the European Space Agency (ESA) as part of the competition. Students then began developing their soldering skills, learning how to assemble and connect key electronic components—an essential step in preparing to build their own satellite.

CanSat is an ESERO project executed by NEMO on the instructions of the Netherlands SpaceOffice (NSO). The aim of the competition is to spark young people's enthusiasm for a career in technology.



Well done to Year 10 students: Lily Elliot, Amelia Ali, Jaya Green, Zahraa Rahman, Alisa Young, Fatima Islam, Tamara Howlader, Zahidah Choudhury, Aishah Ali, Aidhyn Nayak, Akram Hussain



**Mulberry Academy Shoreditch** *Sestriere, Italy*

## SKI TRIP 2026

11TH-17TH JANUARY 2026

**A FEW PLACES REMAINING**  
Payment plans available

OPEN TO STUDENTS IN YEARS 7-10 AND YEAR 12  
ARE YOU INTERESTED?  
PLEASE SPEAK TO MS McRILL

**COST £850**  
Pay in installments

**THE COST INCLUDES**

- Return ferry crossing
- Return executive coach travel
- 5 nights full board accommodation
- 4 days ski pass
- 4 days ski lessons (5 hours per day)
- Equipment hire including skis, ski boots and a helmet
- Active representative
- Full evening activities including quiz, games and pizza night
- Full comprehensive insurance

SCAN FOR MORE INFO

The trip is organised by **activ school tours**

## MULBERRY STEM ACADEMY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH  MERCEDES-BENZ GRAND PRIX

## Silver Crest

Our Y9 and Y10 STEM students began their Silver CREST projects this week. Over the next six weeks, they will research, design, produce and test a solution to a science-based question. In the past we have had projects covering efficient ways to save water when growing crops, effective perfume scents, wind turbines, and more!



**Mulberry Academy Shoreditch**

**PARENTS & CARERS WELCOME**

**COFFEE and CAKE**

AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO OTHER FAMILIES

**Wednesday 3rd December 2022**

**Time: 1.50-2.50pm**  
**Topic: Wellbeing and sleep**  
**Speaker: Shaneka Simon (THEWS)**  
**Location: Mulberry Academy Shoreditch**



# Year 7 Spelling Bee Success!

HOUSE NEWS

This week, our Year 7 students took part in an exciting and highly competitive House Spelling Bee, showcasing their expanding vocabularies and impressive spelling skills. After several rounds of challenging words, participants demonstrated confidence, focus and great sportsmanship as they battled for the top spot.

The final round had everyone on the edge of their seats, with contestants spelling increasingly tricky words and with a tense head-to-head finale. In the end, Amelia Ullah from Thames House emerged as the champion, with Roheya Mboob from Barbican House taking second place. All competitors should be proud of their hard work and determination!



## English Society trip

Last week, the English Society visited University College London where we toured the campus, met the English department lecturers and experienced two English taster sessions. Students really enjoyed this experience and some of them thought this might be somewhere they would like to study at in the future!



English Literature and the Arts Society with UCL

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD TO STAY SAFE ONLINE

Weekly info

### Algorithms and What they show students

"Algorithms can create 'echo chambers.'"

**Fact:** When platforms show the same kind of content repeatedly, young people can start believing that everyone thinks or behaves that way. For instance, if a teen watches political or social commentary videos with one viewpoint, they might never see balanced or opposing ideas.

**What parents can do:** Promote curiosity. Encourage your child to check multiple news sources, follow diverse creators, or even discuss how two people can interpret the same story differently. This helps build critical thinking and perspective. Go through your child's social media with them to check on what they are seeing, keeping an eye on the balance of what they are shown.

If you have any concerns, please speak to your child's head of year or contact Lauren Gillott, E-Safety Lead ([lgillott@mulberryschoolstrust.org](mailto:lgillott@mulberryschoolstrust.org))

**Mulberry Academy Shoreditch**

# HO HO HO IT'S THE WINTER FAYRE

**FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY**  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LOCAL CHARITIES

**JOIN US ON THURSDAY 11TH DECEMBER**  
STALLS · FOOD · DRINKS & FESTIVE ACTIVITIES  
4.00PM-5.30PM

**MULBERRY ACADEMY SHOREDITCH · GOSSET STREET E2 6NW**

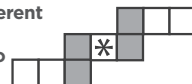
THIS IS A CASH ONLY EVENT

## MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

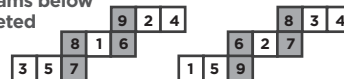
Did you manage to solve the maths problem this week?

Each of the numbers 1 to 9 is to be placed in a different cell of the grid shown so that the sum of the three numbers in each row is 15. Also, the sum of the two numbers in each shaded column is to be 15.

How many choices are there for the number to be placed in the central cell indicated by \*?



**ANSWER:** The sum of the two numbers in each shaded column is 15. Therefore, one of these columns contains the numbers 7 and 8, while the other column holds the numbers 6 and 9. Note also that two of these numbers, one from each column, combine with the number in the central cell to sum to 15. This is possible only if the number in the central cell is 1 and the shaded numbers in the central row are 6 and 8 or if the number in the central cell is 2 and the shaded numbers in the central row are 6 and 7. The diagrams below show how the grid may be completed correctly with either 1 or 2 in the central cell, though these are not the only ways of doing so.



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Dear Parents/Carers,

We will be holding a vaccination clinic this Saturday, 29th November, at Suttons Wharf Health Centre between 10:00am and 2:00pm.

If you would like your child to receive their vaccination, please book an appointment using the link below:

<https://london.schoolvaccination.uk/flu/2025/book>

Thank you for your support in helping keep our community healthy.

Tower Hamlets School Immunisation Team