

The Sixth Form

Scoop

Welcome to the Sixth Form Scoop

Welcome to the first edition of the Sixth Form Scoop for the new academic year! Our first term has been packed with exciting opportunities. Year 12 students have enjoyed weekly enrichment sessions and subject specialised trips to help them settle into their new environment. Meanwhile, Year 13 students have faced the challenges of preparing for upcoming exams and navigating UCAS.

Despite these challenges, both year groups have worked incredibly hard. Many Year 12 students took part in enrichment activities such as ice skating, bowling, Immersive Gamebox, and Escape Plan, experiences designed to help them relax, make friends, and build lasting memories. Those who haven't yet taken part will have these opportunities over the next two terms.

After a competitive interview process, our new Student Leadership Team has been selected. Congratulations to everyone who secured a role; we're excited to see the positive changes you will bring to our Sixth Form community.

Several Year 12 girls have also been involved in the Global Girl Leading Programme. After applications and interviews, they explored what it means to be influential young women and how they can create meaningful change in society.

Throughout the term, students have taken part in academic trips, including lectures from leading organisations and Gresham College. Topics spanned Maths, English Literature, History, and Drama. Our Newcastle trip was a particular highlight, offering students insights into university life and inspiring many to consider future applications.

Overall, this term has been filled with new opportunities, achievements, and a growing sense of community. We look forward to what the rest of the year will bring!

Kadeja Ismail, Chief Editor,
Sixth Form Scoop

Elephant Group programme

by Kadeja Ismail

This year, many high-achieving Year 12 students were given the incredible opportunity to join the Elephant Group Programme. The aim of the programme is to support students from state schools in applying to top universities.

The Elephant Group works closely with students to help them build a strong academic and social profile, enabling them to reach the grades and experiences needed for offers from universities such as Cambridge, Durham, and others.

On Tuesday 25th November, students visited Senate House at UCL for the Launch Event. They had the chance



to attend a university fair and speak directly with representatives from various institutions. Students explored potential next steps, considered long-distance university options, and gained valuable insights into the application process. By the end of the event, students not only left with useful information but also with some free goodies and a clearer idea of the exciting opportunities available to them.

Global Girl Leading Programme

by Kadeja Ismail

Over the past two months, students have participated in the Global Girls Leading Programme. Early in the term, a competitive interview process selected five lucky Year 12 girls to join. As part of the programme, students attended Global Girl Leading Conference hearing from Tina Tchen, Vice President of the Programme and a former attorney under the Obama administration, particularly inspired many of the girls.

During the event, students met around 300 peers from other schools and countries. The programme helped them develop communication and empathy skills while encouraging them to consider others' perspectives. A key focus was gender equality and ensuring all girls have access to education, a pressing global issue.

Additionally, seven Year 12s were selected by Mulberry Schools Trust to represent the school on international trips. The rigorous application process



encouraged them to reflect on the impact they want to make in the world. Travelling internationally alone is a significant challenge, so we wish the students all the best in this exciting opportunity!



Model United Nations

by Teddy Sharpe

MUN is more than just a debate club in formal clothing - it allows students to step into the shoes of world leaders, tackle global issues, and build lasting confidence.

Model United Nations simulates the real United Nations. Students act as delegates representing countries, organisations, or notable individuals. They research their assigned nation's politics, culture, and stance on global issues, then debate solutions in committees ranging from the Security Council to the World Health Organisation. Our current topic focuses on the various uses of AI.

A typical MUN session includes formal speeches, negotiations, drafting resolutions, and teamwork. Even for students not aspiring to be diplomats, MUN develops valuable skills, such as:

- **Public Speaking:** Delivering speeches and responding to crises with clarity and confidence.
- **Critical Thinking:** Considering multiple perspectives and justifying positions with evidence.
- **Research Skills:** Understanding countries' policies and global issues.
- **Conflict Resolution:** Learning to



handle disagreements respectfully and diplomatically.

"Our main topic was lethal autonomous weapon systems and AI. Before the conference, I didn't know much about it, but hearing everyone's arguments helped me understand how serious and complicated it is. We spoke about safety, control, and how technology shouldn't be used without responsibility. I came home with new ideas and a better understanding of how big decisions in war and peace are made. I usually get nervous when speaking in front of people, but MUN helped me break that barrier. Each time I spoke, I felt more confident. By the end, I wasn't just debating, I was learning how to express myself, listen to others, and stay calm. I left proud, more confident, and excited to join again next time."

Mohammed Moussaoui

Columbia Youth Centre workshop

by Saif Uddin

During this term's enrichments, Year 12 students attended a workshop at the local Youth Centre. The session included team-building activities designed to help students relax, get to know each other, and take a break from schoolwork.

One of the highlights was a game based on 'traitors,' where students created backstories to win a cash prize and were split into teams. Each team answered themed questions covering history, geography, and pop culture. Points were awarded for the closest answers, and teams had to vote out a member when losing rounds. The game was full of strategy, teamwork, and fun, and students had a blast!

The Columbia Youth Centre offers multiple free activities, so anyone interested in joining after school is encouraged to participate.



Sixth Form Leadership Team

by Khadija Sharif



Syeda Begum
Head Girl



Samuel Olatunbosun
Head Boy



Zahra Tanko
Deputy Head Girl



Teddy Sharpe
Deputy Head Boy



Julce Alte Erdogdu
Diversity Lead



Chaa Shanjahan
Diversity and House Lead



Olivier Toure
Lower School Lead



Khadija Omar
Mohamed Sharif
Media and House Lead



Kashaurn Knight
Media and House Lead



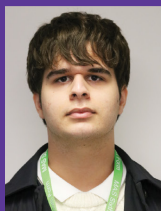
Zakiyah Zareen
Careers Lead



Nusrat Kabir
Health and Wellbeing Lead



Abdirisaaq Sheikh
Diversity and House Lead



Nicholas Ganz
Literacy and Events Lead



Kadeja Ismail
Events and Media Lead



Johanna Bekele
Curriculum Lead



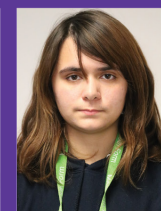
Mohamed Moussaoui
Academic Mentoring Lead



Musa Abdulmuhit
Fundraising and Enterprise Lead



Rajvir Singh
Sports and House Lead



Zofia O'Dowd
Sports and House Lead



Black History movie night

by Choa Shanjahan

Our recent movie night was a fun and positive experience for the group. Watching Black Panther brought lots of energy to the room, and everyone felt comfortable and included. The film sparked conversations about culture, representation, and standing up for what's right.

It also tied into lessons we've learned about the Black Lives Matter movement, especially the importance of visibility and empowerment. Seeing strong Black characters on screen made these ideas feel real. Snacks and a relaxed setting added to the fun and helped bring the group closer together.

The Sixth Form Leadership Team has had an energetic and inspiring start to the year. Joining the team was not easy. First, everyone completed an application form explaining why they wanted their chosen role and what they hoped to bring. Then came the speeches: each of us delivered a two-minute talk in front of a large audience while competing for a spot. It was nerve-wracking, but hearing our names announced at the end was an incredible relief! Immediately after, we dived into team-building activities, which made the experience feel even more intense. Those selected for the next stage were interviewed by a panel of four staff members. By the end, nineteen students were chosen for this year's Leadership Team.

Our team includes media leads, sports leads, diversity captains, heads of houses, literacy leads, academic mentors, and several other roles. We are one of the most enthusiastic cohorts the school has had, showing our energy by helping at parents' evenings and volunteering during open mornings. It has been a lively start, and we cannot wait for what comes next.

Newcastle trip

by Zakiyah Zareen

On 17th November, we visited Newcastle for an educational and fun trip. I'm grateful for the opportunity, I enjoyed learning about Newcastle and its universities, which helped me explore my future options and gain independence during the trip.

Overall, the teachers and peers who accompanied us made the experience memorable and rewarding.



Ice skating enrichment

by Khadija Sharif

Enrichment has been a major highlight for Year 12 this term, with a mix of activities every Wednesday. From Gamebox and escape rooms to Somali food from Damal and bowling, there's been something for everyone. But the recent ice-skating trip stood out as a favourite!

Most of us were far from natural skaters, slipping, struggling to balance, and nearly knocking each other over. That's what made it so fun, nobody cared about



being perfect. By the end of the session, students who could barely stay upright at first were skating confidently, which felt like a real achievement.

The trip also brought everyone together, including teachers! It was lovely to connect with other new starters. Enrichment doesn't just give us a break from schoolwork, it makes school more fun, friendly, and enjoyable.



Mulberry STEM Academy by Khadija Sharif

This year, STEM has been an exciting and surprisingly competitive journey for both Year 10 and Year 12 students. Getting in was not as simple as sending off a form, we had to complete an online application, and once shortlisted, answer a question in any format other than an essay. My group decided to make a video to be creative and stand out!

Our question was about how energy transfer happens in our daily lives. We spent the week interviewing people, filming examples, and trying to look like we knew what we were doing. Somehow, we managed to complete the project in less than a week! It was a mix of teamwork, creativity, and a little last minute panic, and it worked out brilliantly.



We then showcased our projects at an evening event for parents. Other groups explored completely different ideas: some programmed robots, others created websites, and some experimented with Morse code. It was inspiring to see the variety of projects and the creativity on display.



Now, our Year 12 teams are working on coding projects and posters in groups of five, with deadlines approaching quickly. We're excited to continue our STEM journey, including starting the EPQ, working towards the Gold CREST Award, and discovering what comes next.



MAS and Bexhill day out

by Kashaurn Semper-Knight



On 9th December I took part in a trip where I supported a group of Year 9 and 10 students from Sussex as they navigated London. This experience was particularly interesting because it was the first time I had supported students from outside the city. I found the trip genuinely valuable; like many of the students, I don't fully know my way around London even though I live here, so helping them also helped me become more confident in navigating the city myself.

A highlight of the day was our tour of the National Theatre. We were able to see behind the scenes and explore several of the theatre's

performance spaces, which gave me a deeper understanding of the industry. This was especially meaningful as it helped me reflect on my future career and what environments I might want to work in.

Overall, I believe the trip benefited me greatly. I learned a lot, gained new insights into London, and strengthened my sense of independence. As a sixth-form student, I strongly believe it is important to take every opportunity we are given to grow, explore our interests, and challenge ourselves, and for that reason, I believe this trip was truly worthwhile.

Deloitte lecture

By Kadeja Ismail

On 17th September, Year 12 Economics students visited Mulberry Schools for Girls to attend a lecture by a senior partner at Deloitte. Deloitte, one of the major finance consulting firms alongside KPMG, PwC, and EY, offered students insights into various consultancy pathways.

The speaker shared the competitiveness of applications and the unique opportunities available at Deloitte, including internships and degree apprenticeships. Students asked thoughtful questions, demonstrating keen interest. Topics covered included senior partner responsibilities, career progression and the benefits of working internationally.

