

Welcome to the Sixth Form Scoop

Welcome to another edition of the Sixth Form Scoop, where we look back on the past few months of this academic year. Each term has brought new opportunities, and this one has definitely been full of energy, challenges, and memorable moments.

Year 12 students have continued to make the most of enrichment, taking part in activities such as ice skating, bowling, Immersive Gamebox, and Escape Plan. These experiences have been a great way to take a break from lessons, build friendships and try something new. For those who haven't had the chance yet, there's still plenty to look forward to in the summer term.

At the same time, Year 13 students are now in the middle of exam season. It's a demanding time, and we recognise the hard work, resilience, and determination they've shown throughout the year. We wish them all the best as they take this final step in their Sixth Form journey.

Our Sixth Form Leadership Team has also continued to make a real impact. A highlight this term was the student-led iftar, which created a warm and inclusive space and brought the community together. It's been great to see students taking initiative and leading meaningful events.

Alongside this, students have taken part in academic trips, guest lectures, and mentoring opportunities with younger year groups, helping to build confidence and develop new skills.

Overall, this term has been full of growth, achievement, and strong community spirit. We're excited to see what the rest of the year has in store.

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Sixth Form Iftar

by Syeda Begum and Abdi Sheikh

We were honoured to host Mulberry Academy Shoreditch's first ever student-led iftar event.

We are incredibly grateful that our idea was supported and allowed to grow into such a special evening.

The atmosphere on the night was warm, welcoming, and full of community spirit. There were beautiful Qur'an recitations, thoughtful presentations, and a meaningful prayer that brought everyone together. We were also proud to share creative contributions, including a poem performed during the evening. Hearing students describe the event as "loving" showed just how important it is to create spaces where everyone feels included.

Organising the event, from planning the programme to preparing decorations, coordinating photography, and working with the catering team was a rewarding experience that highlighted the dedication of everyone involved. The teamwork between students and staff made the evening truly memorable, and we are very thankful for all the support we received.



We would like to give a special thank you to Musa Abdulmuhit and Mohamed Moussaoui for their brilliant presentation and for leading the prayers. Thank you also to Ms James and Mr Hussain for supporting the idea from the very beginning, and to Mrs Scales, Ms Hassan, Mr Singh and Mr Hibbs for helping the event run smoothly. A final thank you goes to Aziz and the catering team for the incredible food they prepared.

We hope this marks the beginning of a new annual tradition at MAS, one that continues to bring our community together during Ramadan for years to come.

Free tutoring programme

By Khadija Sharif

I've been involved in helping to set up a free tutoring programme through the Envision programme. The aim is to address inequality in education and support students who may not always have access to extra academic help.

We worked together to plan how the programme would run. We designed posters, created sign-up forms, and promoted the event by speaking in form classes and putting posters up around the school. The tutoring sessions take place for one hour after school on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Science runs on Mondays, English on Tuesdays, and Maths on Thursdays. The programme is open to students in Years 9, 10 and 11. It has been great to see the

enthusiasm from students. The planning process was both fun and exciting, but it has been especially rewarding to see students attend the sessions and benefit from the support. Knowing that the programme can make a difference for others also makes the experience more meaningful for those of us involved.



Sheriffs Challenge

by Mohamed Moussaoui

At the start of the new term, a group of nine students from our school took part in the Sheriff's Challenge, where we explored whether the City of London should continue supporting human-made art as AI becomes more common. We started with an introductory session led by David Gracie, who explained how the challenge worked and helped us understand how to approach such a big question. Over the next few weeks, we met regularly to share ideas, carry out research and discuss different viewpoints. Through these discussions, we agreed that AI should be used as a tool to support artists, not replace human creativity.

We decided to present our ideas in a news style format, with different speakers looking at the economic, environmental, historical, cultural and people focused impacts of AI

on the arts. We also explored how art connects to human emotion, identity and real life experiences, which technology alone cannot fully replicate. With guidance from Miss James, our drama teacher, we worked on making the performance more engaging and confident. Throughout the project, we improved our teamwork and communication by assigning roles and supporting one another. In the final stage, six students presented our work to students from five other schools, helping us build confidence and gain valuable public-speaking experience.

Although we didn't win the challenge, the experience gave us so much more than a trophy, it taught us the value of collaboration, research, public speaking and thinking deeply about the role of technology in creativity.



Work Experience trip to KPMG

by Syeda Begum

My work experience at KPMG was a really interesting and enjoyable day. When we first arrived, we were introduced to the basics of advertising and marketing, and we learned about how businesses promote their products and why marketing is so important. The staff also explained the different career routes we could take after sixth form, including the option of doing an apprenticeship instead of going straight to university. After the introduction, we took part in a workshop where we were given a fictional product to sell called 'Punch', which was a drink. Each group had to create a way to advertise it, either by using posters that were provided or by making a presentation. One by one, every group presented their ideas to the room. Afterwards, we spoke with some of the KPMG staff, asked them questions about their careers, and finished the day with a tour of the large and elegant office.

Global Girl Leading seminar

By Kadeja Ismail

On 9th March, Global Girl Leading hosted a seminar titled Give to Gain. Guest speaker Rothna Akthar, a BBC Apprentice contestant, business owner, and student wellbeing advisor at Imperial College London, shared her experiences on TV and as an entrepreneur.

Rothna spoke about the importance of representation, particularly as a Bengali hijabi woman on TV, showing that opportunities are not limited by race, religion, or gender. She also shared that much of her inspiration comes from her sister, a figure many young people can relate to.

She emphasised the value of confidence and taking opportunities to create change. Rothna spoke about her cake business, highlighting the challenges of pursuing a passion and the resilience needed to turn ideas into reality.

The event continued with a Q&A hosted by Dr Vanessa Ogden, CEO of the Mulberry Trust. Two Amnesty International members also spoke, encouraging students not to apologise for being "too much" - too opinionated, too loud, or too passionate and showing how these traits can be empowering.

Overall, the seminar was incredibly inspiring and encouraged students to recognise their potential and overcome challenges.

We Can Be Trip

By Kadeja Ismail

On 12th February, a group of Year 12 students visited Rabobank, a finance firm specialising in sustainable international transactions, as part of the Lord Mayor's Appeal initiative We Can Be. The event gave young women the opportunity to explore leadership and learn about different leadership styles.

The session began with a personality quiz to help students identify their leadership type: visionary, analytical, creative, or directional. They then explored the surprisingly wide range of job roles within a bank by matching employees to their job titles.

The second half of the event

featured an interactive talk led by Dr Joanna Abeyie, founder and CEO of Blue Moon & Partners. Dr Abeyie shared her experiences of leadership and spoke about her journey in building her company. The event also included a talk from the Lady Mayoress of London, who discussed her path to her role and the importance of women in positions of leadership.

Finally, students took part in a challenge where they had to decide which company to invest in during a period of financial instability. Overall, students really enjoyed the trip and are hopeful for future work experience opportunities.

Global Girl Leading international trip to India

By Zofia O'Dowd

When we arrived in New Delhi, we were warmly welcomed by our host school, St Marks, who guided us through a packed schedule of activities, including SDG workshops and sightseeing.

On the first day, we worked in groups with students from New Zealand and Japan to prepare and present a poster about SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities. Together, we created ideas for an ideal world, including free accommodation, healthcare, and education.

During our next visit to the school, we took part in another workshop where I worked with students from Thailand and India to create a graffiti-



style collage exploring four different SDGs and how they connect with one another.

On our final day, each country set up a stand to represent their culture. We presented the UK and also had the chance to visit other countries' stands, which helped us learn more about different cultures.

Overall, it was an incredibly interesting experience. We made friends with students from all around the world and learned a lot about Indian culture. It was also fascinating to see that teenagers from different countries often share very similar views on the SDGs.



Sixth Form Enrichment

By Jhazmyrn Charles

The enrichment activities were honestly a really good experience. Ice skating stood out because it wasn't something we usually get to do. We were all learning together, helping each other balance, and laughing when we slipped. It gave us the chance to try something completely different and pick up a new skill along the way. Visiting the Columbia Road Youth Club was another highlight. The staff were welcoming and made the space feel comfortable straight away. It



was nice having a place where we could relax, play games, and talk without feeling rushed. We also visited Damal restaurant. Sitting together, sharing food, and enjoying the atmosphere made it feel like a real group moment. It was calm, warm and a great opportunity to bond. Overall, the activities were well planned and gave us the chance to socialise, try new things, and enjoy ourselves in different ways. It felt like a good balance of fun, learning and spending time together.

Apprenticeship Workshops

By Olivier Toure

I really enjoyed the apprenticeship workshops as they introduced me to a whole new range of future opportunities. The sessions gave me an insight into what is available for young people and encouraged me to think more deeply about my future. They also helped my parents better understand the different pathways available, as they were more familiar with the traditional university route.

Now they are much more open-minded about the range of career opportunities available, especially in a city like London.

Belfast trip

by Nicholas Ganz

On 11th February, a group of Year 12 and Year 13 Politics and History A-level students travelled to Belfast for a three day trip.

On the first day, we took a tour of the Belfast murals, many of which were painted during and after The Troubles. We walked along the Peace Walls and even had the opportunity to sign them ourselves. Afterwards, we visited Titanic Belfast, where we learned about the history of goods, trade, and shipbuilding in the city, as well as the construction of the RMS Titanic. Building the ship was a huge undertaking, and the noise of its construction was said to echo across the entire city. We also saw the enormous cranes used to lift the metal beams that built the ship and visited the site where it was constructed and launched on its maiden voyage.

On the second day, we walked past a large Victorian style greenhouse before arriving at the Ulster Museum. The museum covered a wide range of topics, from the Troubles to prehistory and science. It displayed



many impressive artefacts, including Japanese bells from the late Edo and early Meiji periods, a stuffed polar bear, a Triceratops fossil, a totem pole from North America and a car produced in Belfast in 1908. The museum also contained numerous pieces of porcelain, clothing and sculpture.



During our visit, we saw the Ancient Egypt exhibition featuring mummies. Suspended above the central hall were three large dragon models used at the final cast and crew dinner after the last season of Game of Thrones. They were displayed to celebrate the show's connection to Northern Ireland, where many scenes, including parts of 'Winterfell' were filmed.

Afterwards, we walked across the city in wind and rain to reach Parliament Buildings at Stormont, home to the Northern Ireland Assembly. Many thanks go to the tour guide who kindly gave us a private tour of the chamber even though we had missed our scheduled slot. The chamber we saw was the Assembly Chamber, where members debate and vote. It uses simulated daylight so that, regardless of the weather outside, the room always appears bright. Our guide explained how the parliamentary system works in Northern Ireland and the history of the building and its location.

University Challenge event

By Khadija Sharif



In January, our school held a University Quiz Challenge that brought together Sixth Form and lower school students for a fun and competitive event.

From the start, the atmosphere was exciting, with everyone eager to get involved and do their best. During the quiz, we worked together using our communication skills to discuss questions, share ideas, and decide on the best answers. One of the highlights of the event was seeing how enthusiastic the younger students were. They were clearly excited to compete alongside the Sixth Form,

and it was great to see how much they enjoyed the experience.

The quiz was also something different from our usual school activities, which made it even more enjoyable. The competition was very close and, although the lower school won by just a few points, it kept the event exciting right until the end.

As a house leader, I really enjoyed taking part in this event. It was clear that everyone worked well together and had a great time. I'm definitely looking forward to more house events like this later in the year.

House Bench Ball Competition

By Diva Kiona

Helping to coach the Year 10 bench ball teams during their tournament was a really fun and exciting experience. It helped me develop my leadership skills because I was able to support and encourage the students while they were playing. It was great to see how much they enjoyed themselves and how they demonstrated both teamwork and competitiveness. Even when they lost, they congratulated the other team and stayed positive, which showed great sportsmanship. Watching them also reminded me of when I was in their year, which made the experience even more enjoyable.

Overall, it was a great experience and I would happily do it again if I had the chance.

