

Principal: Ms Melissa Gibson, MA, MPhil

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Dear Families,

We were delighted to host our Challenge Partners Review this week. The visit was extremely successful and provided a valuable opportunity to showcase the work taking place across the school. Feedback highlighted the strength of our provision and the commitment of both staff and students. We are proud that the review recognised the school as leading in all areas, reflecting the high standards, collaboration and dedication that continue to drive improvement throughout all aspects of the school.

We have had an eventful week with many exciting activities happening as part of Careers Week as well as a range of exciting things happening as part of International Women's Day celebrations. We also celebrated a brilliant World Book Day on Thursday led by the amazing House Team. Thank you to all the staff and students who took part in all these brilliant events.

I would like to congratulate the students who graduated from the STEM programme on Wednesday. Throughout the programme students demonstrated curiosity, commitment and enthusiasm while developing their knowledge and skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Their hard work and determination have been commendable and I am incredibly proud of their achievements.

We look forward to welcoming back the students who have been taking part in the TrailFam residential trip to Gran Canaria. What a wonderful opportunity for the students and we look forward to hearing all about it.

### **Saturday Sixth Form Open Morning**

We will be holding a Sixth Form Open Morning on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 9.00am.

### **Additional Year 6 Open Morning**

We will be holding additional Year 6 Open Mornings from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March, starting at 9.00am.

### **Eid Closure**

Our school follows the term dates set by Tower Hamlets. The provisional dates identified for Eid closure are Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March or Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. The exact date of Eid, and therefore the school closure, will be confirmed on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March following the sighting of the moon. Parents and carers will be notified via text message and the school website. Please note that the school will be closed on the day that Eid is observed

### **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 and Principal's News

THE  
**MAS**  
WAY



It has been a very busy week with visitors from Challenge Partners who were very impressed with the school.. We also had a whole-school drop down day for PHSE on Thursday and a busy Careers Week for all year groups.



### International Women's Day

We celebrated International Women's Day this week with a guest speaker, a Women in Art treasure hunt, a lovely display in the Street and lots more. Thankyou to Ms James and all those involved in organising the week.

### We Can Be

A group of Year 12 girls had the exciting opportunity to attend the Lord Mayor's Appeal We Can Be event on Tuesday 12th February. We Can Be is an initiative designed to empower young women by building



their confidence, developing key skills, and exposing them to career opportunities within the City of London, helping them to make informed decisions about their futures. As part of the day, students visited Rabobank in the morning, where they gained valuable insight into careers in finance and the professional world. The experience was both inspiring and informative, allowing students to engage with industry professionals and begin to envision their own future pathways.



### World Book Day

We marked World Book Day with a week of reading and book related activities. It was great to see all the creative costumes on Thursday as students (and staff) dressed up as their favourite book characters.

### Open Mornings

We are holding Open Mornings for Year 6 students and parents next week. If you are looking for a secondary school place for this September, do come along and see us. **Open Mornings start at 9.15am Monday 9th March - Friday 13th March.**

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



## Sixth Form News

It has been a very busy week in the Sixth Form with a number of important events and opportunities for students. Mock examinations have taken place this week, particularly for Year 13 students. These exams are an important opportunity to reflect on progress ahead of the final examination period. Students should use the feedback from these assessments carefully and take time to review what worked well in their revision and where improvements can be made.

On Tuesday, a group of students attended a visit to KPMG, providing a valuable insight into the world of professional services and apprenticeship pathways. During the visit, students learned about different career routes within the organisation, including school leaver and degree apprenticeship programmes. They also had the opportunity to hear directly

from professionals working in the industry about their career journeys, the skills required in the workplace, and the opportunities available for students after sixth form.

Yesterday we also welcomed the King's Trust Mosaic Programme to the Sixth Form. This forms part of a series of seven workshops designed to support students who are interested in pursuing apprenticeships or entering the workplace after sixth form. Through mentoring, guidance, and practical activities, the programme aims to help students build confidence, develop employability skills, and explore pathways into work or training. We are looking forward to continuing the programme over the coming weeks!

Year 12 students also took part in an excellent VESPA Day, focusing on reflection and improvement across their study habits. Students spent time

considering how they organise their revision, manage their time, and approach their learning in lessons. A key focus was identifying and improving their "weakest domains" within the VESPA model. Students should now review their coaching reports carefully, track their progress, and continue working towards the goals they have set.

Finally, congratulations to the many Year 13 students who are continuing to receive university offers, including offers from leading Russell Group universities. This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the hard work students have put into their applications. We look forward to celebrating many more offers in the weeks ahead.

**Sixth Form Open Morning**  
**Saturday 7th March**  
**9.00am-10.00am**



# International Women's Day

This year, our school marked International Women's Day with a powerful and heartfelt window display created in collaboration with our male members of staff. Each contributed a personal tribute to the women who have shaped, inspired, and supported them, whether family members, colleagues, mentors, or public figures. The display stands as a visible reminder of the respect, gratitude, and admiration our community holds for the incredible women who influence our lives every day.



## A letter to my mum/carer



## Live Wall of Inspirational Women!

Across the week, students were invited to contribute to our Live Wall of Inspirational Women. A vibrant, ever-growing celebration of the women who inspire them. From mothers, aunts, and sisters to athletes, activists, authors, and teachers, the wall became a beautiful tapestry of appreciation. Each tribute highlighted the strength, creativity, resilience, and kindness that students see reflected in the women they admire. The wall not only honoured these role models but also sparked meaningful conversations about empowerment and representation.

On Wednesday we invited mums and carers in to hear their sons read out messages that they had written for them to mark International Women's Day. It was really moving and heartwarming to listen to them celebrating the most important women in their lives. Well done to all those who wrote and read out their lovely messages.



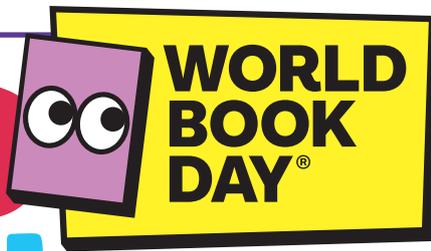
## MULBERRY STEM ACADEMY

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH MERCEDES-BENZ GRAND PRIX

Congratulations to all the Mulberry STEM Academy students who graduated at the wonderful ceremony at Mulberry UTC on Wednesday. What a fantastic event and a great achievement!



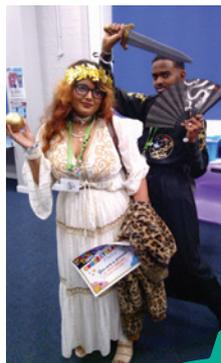
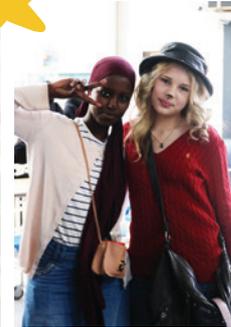
# WORLD BOOK DAY



We've been celebrating books and reading throughout the week, with lots of activities in the library. On Thursday students dressed up as their favourite book character and there were ten winners for the best costumes.

Sixth Form students enjoyed a screening of Troy after school, part of a celebration of classical literature along with some classical poetry and 'bad film bingo'. Thank you to Ms Padfield for organising this event.

It's been a fun week highlighting the benefits of reading and the magic of books! Thank you to the Library and House teams and all who took part.



It was great to see staff joining in the World Book Day fun too!



# Careers Week



As part of Careers Week, Year 8 and 9 students visited the BAFTA headquarters for an interactive workshop exploring careers in film, television, animation, gaming and VFX.

Year 8 students also enjoyed a BUPA Healthcare Insight Day, a healthcare-focused experience introducing students to the wide range of roles within the sector. Sessions explore clinical and non-clinical pathways, highlighting how science, communication and teamwork underpin patient care.



## Every BODY is perfect Student Diversity Leaders' Body-Positive Campaign!

As Student Diversity Leaders, we wanted to create a campaign that reminds everyone in our school that every single body is perfect exactly as it is. That's why we launched Every BODY Is Perfect, a movement focused on celebrating real bodies, real differences, and real confidence. We created an Aspirations Wall, where students could write positive messages to uplift one another, notes about self-love, confidence, kindness, and embracing who we are. Seeing the wall fill up with encouraging words from students across the school showed us how powerful it is when we support each other. Our goal is simple: to make sure everyone feels seen, valued, and proud of the body they're in.

By Gulce Alte Erdogan and Abdirisaaq Sheikh.



# Primary Schools

On Thursday afternoon, it was great to welcome a group of lovely Year 4 pupils from St Monica's Catholic Primary School who came to paint each others' portraits with Ms Kilmanaite. They had a great time and produced some very creative portraits.

We were also very happy to welcome a lovely group of pupils from St John's Primary School who got stuck into a coding project with Ms Gillott.

We look forward to their next visit.



## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD TO stay safe online

Children may hesitate to mention worrying messages

- Some young people stay quiet if something feels uncomfortable because they are unsure how adults will react.
- They may worry they will lose access to a favourite game or group chat if they tell an adult.

**What parents can do:** Reassure your child they can always tell you if something online concerns them and that you will help them sort it out together.

**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))

## MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Did you manage to solve the maths problem this week?

The average (mean) weight of five giant dates was 50g. Kate ate one and the average (mean) weight of the four remaining dates was 40g. What was the weight of the date that Kate ate?

**ANSWER: 90g**

The total weight of the original five dates was 250g and the total weight of the four remaining dates was 160g

## HOUSE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

TUESDAY 10TH MARCH 2026  
3.35-5.00pm in the MUGA

YEARS 7-9 ★★★★★ 7 A SIDE

**SIGN UP TO PLAY**  
Barbican and Tower: Wayne  
Trafalgar and Thames: Ahmed  
Tate and Globe: Stephen

1 team per house per year group

Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

## Mulberry WORD OF THE WEEK

**Accumulate**

**DEFINITION**  
To gradually collect or gather a large number of things over a period of time.

**EXAMPLE**  
1. Tom had a messy bedroom. His parent didn't know how he'd managed to accumulate so much junk since the last tidy up!  
2. The newly wed couple hoped to accumulate enough money to buy their own house in five years.

**SYNONYMS**  
To pile up  
To gather  
To accrue

**ANTONYMS**  
To separate  
To shrink

**CHARACTERISTICS**  
From the Latin word *accumulat* meaning 'heaped up'.