

Principal: Ms Melissa Gibson, MA, MPhil

Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Families,

This week we were delighted to host a very successful Attendance and Behaviour Hub Open Morning, giving visitors the opportunity to see the valuable work taking place to support students across the school. Visitors from schools across London came into see the guidance, structure and support we offer to students at this school to ensure they remain engaged and achieve success in school.

Year 10 and 13 have also continued to benefit from the Envision Mentoring Programme, taking part in mentoring sessions and trips designed to develop their confidence, teamwork and problem-solving skills. Through these experiences, students have had the opportunity to work with mentors, explore important social issues and think creatively about how they can make a positive difference in their communities.

On Friday we celebrated Pi Day with a range of fun activities across the school. Students enjoyed taking part in several activities including: Pi Treasure Hunt, Pi Recital and Pi the Teacher.

Eid Closure

Our school follows the term dates set by Tower Hamlets. The provisional dates identified for Eid closure are Thursday 19th March or Friday 20th March. The exact date of Eid, and therefore the school closure, will be confirmed on Wednesday 18th 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



Year 7 Exchange Trip with Bexhill Academy

Our Year 7 students took part in a cultural exchange with pupils from Bexhill Academy, spending the day exploring two historic sites together. The group visited Batemans House, learning about the life and work of Rudyard Kipling, before heading to Bodiam Castle to discover its fascinating medieval history.



A TrailFam win in Gran Canaria
TrailFam's race team enjoyed an active and successful week in Gran Canaria

Sixth Form Open Morning

On Saturday morning Year 11 students from a range of different schools came to visit our school to register for our sixth form.

It was a lovely morning with a great energy talking to young people about what they want to do for Sixth Form and for university and to work place

Well done to Ms Scales and Mr Griffiths for their leadership of the event.



... racing at the world-famous Transgrancanaria. Read more about their trip on page 3).

Farewell tea party for Dr Ogden CBE

On Thursday we held a Tea Party as a thank you and farewell to Dr Vanessa Ogden CBE, who is leaving her role as CEO of the Mulberry Schools Trust after twenty years of exceptional leadership and service. It was a lovely event and a chance for staff and students to say goodbye to Dr Ogden, who has been an inspiration to us, and a very important part of our school for almost a decade. Dr Ogden is going to take up a new role at the Department for Education and we wish her all the very best for the future.

Mrs Ruth Holden,
Executive Principal
Ms Melissa Gibson,
Principal



Sixth Form News

Well done to everyone for a brilliant week in the Sixth Form.

Students were invited to attend a tea party with Dr Ogden in the Library, where a wonderful speech was read by Mabel in Year 13. The event was a chance for students to say goodbye to Dr Ogden, share their memories, and offer their good wishes.



A huge well done to the Year 12 Student Leadership Team, who organised an excellent Iftar event on Thursday evening in The Street. It was



a lovely occasion, with a fantastic atmosphere and lots of delicious food enjoyed by everyone who attended.

Enrichment was again very popular this week, with lots of positive feedback from students and a range of exciting activities taking place across the programme.

The Year 12 badminton and gym club continues to go well, with students enjoying the opportunity to take part and lead these activities.

Mulberry Academy Shoreditch

WORD OF THE WEEK

NOW!

Reciprocal

DEFINITION

1. A reciprocal relationship is where two people (or groups of people) agree to help each other by behaving in the same way or by giving each other similar advantages.

2. A reciprocal is what to multiply a number by to get 1.

EXAMPLE

1. The UK and Australia have reciprocal health agreements so you will get emergency medical care if you travel there.

2. In maths, the reciprocal of 4 is $\frac{1}{4}$.

SYNONYMS

Mutual
Give and Take
Shared

ANTONYMS

Different
Independent
Unrelated

CHARACTERISTICS

Reciprocal comes from the Latin 'reciprocus' meaning returning. That might be why the reciprocal of a reciprocal takes you back to where you started!

Elephant Group Conference

A group of Year 12 students recently attended the Elephant Group Spring Conference at Senate House, where they took part in a range of activities designed to support their future university applications. During the visit, students toured University College London (UCL), gaining insight into university life and campus facilities. They also attended engaging lectures on effective revision strategies, the university application process, and how to write a strong personal statement. The experience provided valuable guidance and inspiration as students begin planning their next steps after sixth form.



Girls' NFL Flag Football

On Monday, our girls' flag football team made their competitive debut, and what a start it was! Despite being new to the sport, the team stepped onto the field against a highly experienced opponent and immediately made their presence felt.

Key Highlights

Defensive Dominance: The girls started the game with high intensity, using sharp defensive techniques to force the opposing offense into several fumbles.

Strategic Growth: While the final score didn't quite reflect the level of play, the team showed incredible tactical development, working collaboratively and staying composed under pressure.

Dedication to the Game: The girls are already requesting extra training sessions during to sharpen their skills.



Coach's Corner

"I am incredibly proud of how this team handled their first big test. Their ability to take on feedback in high-stress situations is impressive. With this level of commitment, it's only onwards and upwards from here. Well done, girls!"

Inclusion Science Museum

On Tuesday, the inclusion department got the chance to unleash their inner scientist at the Wonderlab attraction at the Science Museum. The attraction allows for visitors to explore the science behind everyday life and to view the world around them in new and exciting ways. Our wonderful students got to experience 50 eye-opening exhibits that looked at sound waves, gravity and the rotation journey of planet Earth! They all had the opportunity to develop their learning in science in a fun and creative way – what a blast!!



Bebras Coding Challenge

On Monday, we had ten students participate in the Bebras Coding Challenge 2026. KS3 students solved problems using block-based coding and our new Y9 and Y10 GCSE students used the Python they've been learning in lessons to solve problems. These students were in the top 10% of the country in the Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge, so went onto this next round. They've put in lots of practice over the past few weeks and we are eagerly awaiting their results!



TRAILFAM Race in Gran Canaria

TrailFam's race team had an incredible week in Gran Canaria competing at the world-famous Transgran Canaria. For our young athletes, taking part in a major international trail race was a defining experience and a chance to test themselves on a global stage. The team delivered an outstanding performance, with 10 TrailFam athletes finishing inside the top 30 and 3 placing inside the top 10. The highlight of the week came when TrailFam athlete Leo stormed to victory, winning the race and showcasing the strength, resilience and spirit of our young runners. Beyond the results, the trip was about much more than racing. It gave the athletes the opportunity to travel, build confidence, support one another as a team and experience the adventure of trail running at one of the world's most iconic mountain events.



Mulberry Academy Shore-ditch

AN EXCITING WATER SPORTS ADVENTURE

22ND - 28TH JUNE '26

FOR 9 YEAR STUDENTS

GOSTA BRAVA SPAIN

£550
All costs included

KAYAKING . PADDLE BOARDING
SAILING . WINDSURFING
+ A WHOLE DAY AT AN
INCREIBLE WATER PARK
Adventure, friends & unforgettable memories

See Mr Robertshaw for more info

GIRL'S FOOTBALL Tournament

fill in a form from the House Office. First come first serve!

Wednesday 25th March during p5/6

Mulberry Academy Shore-ditch

Did you know? **You can buy a Calculator here in school**

GCSE calculator

A Level calculator

£6

£20

Mulberry Academy Shore-ditch

Please pay on ParentPay or see Finance to buy one.

Our First Ever Sixth Form Iftar at MAS

by Syeda Begum, Head Girl
and Abdirisaaq Sheikh, Diversity Lead

We were honoured to host Mulberry Academy Shoreditch's first ever student-led iftar event. We're incredibly grateful that the 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 recited during the evening. Hearing students describe the event as "loving" and "comforting" meant so much to us and showed how important it is to create spaces where everyone feels included.

Organising the event, from planning the programme to preparing decorations, coordinating photos, and working with catering, was a rewarding experience that highlighted the commitment of everyone involved. The teamwork between students and staff made the



evening truly memorable, and we are thankful for all the support we received. We want to give a big thank you to Musa Abdulmuhit and Mohamed Moussaoui for your brilliant presentation and lead in our prayers. To Ms James and Mr Hussain for supporting and organising the idea from the start, and to Mrs Scales, Ms Hassan, Mr Singh, and Mr Hibbs for helping the night run smoothly. A special thanks also goes to Aziz and the amazing catering team for the incredible food they prepared for the event.

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.



Year 10 Macbeth performance

All of Year 10 attended an electrifying performance of Macbeth by the Box Clever Theatre Company in the sports hall this Thursday. It was a thoroughly entertaining modernised production, with lots of audience involvement. A fantastic opportunity for students to see the play they are currently studying for their GCSEs in performance!



Supporting your child to stay safe online

Private messaging can feel more personal than public chats

Moving from a public chat into direct messages can make children feel they have made a close online friend. They cannot be sure that this person is who they say they are. Conversations sometimes move between apps or platforms, which can make them harder to keep track of.

What parents can do: Where possible, encourage device use in shared spaces at home and have regular, relaxed check-ins about who they talk to online.

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

MATHS PROBLEM OF THE WEEK

Did you manage to solve the maths problem this week?

The Pythagoras Patisseries sells triangular cakes at 39p each and square buns at 23p each. For her party, Helen spent exactly £5.12 on an assortment of these cakes and buns.

How many items in total did she buy?

ANSWER: 16 items

One cake and one bun cost a total of 62p. Note that $512 \div 62 = 8$ remainder 16 and note also that $16 = 39 - 23$. Hence $512 = 8(39 + 23) + 16 = 8(39 + 23) + 39 - 23 = 9 \times 39 + 7 \times 23$. As 39 and 23 do not have a common factor, other than 1, Helen must have bought 9 cakes and 7 buns.