

The Sixth Form

Scoop

Welcome to the Sixth Form Scoop

As we come to the end of another academic year, this edition of the Sixth Form Scoop gives us a chance to look back on everything we've achieved and experienced together.

It's been a busy year filled with opportunities, achievements and memorable moments. We've taken part in a range of enrichment activities, workshops, trips, house events, charity initiatives, leadership meetings and student-led projects, all helping to make Sixth Form life enjoyable and rewarding. We've also come together to celebrate events such as Iftar and Eid, which were a great success and highlighted the diversity and sense of community within our school.



There has been plenty to celebrate this year, including our success in the Envision programme, where we proudly brought home a trophy and represented the Sixth Form brilliantly. Alongside this, students have continued to get involved in activities across the school, contributing to a positive and welcoming environment for everyone.

As we head into the final week of term, we're looking forward to Culture Day, Sports Day, and other end of year events that will help round off another successful year. Thank you to everyone who has taken part, supported events, and helped make this year such a memorable one. We hope you enjoy reading this final edition of the Sixth Form Scoop and have a fantastic summer break.

Khadija Sharif

Chief Editor, Sixth Form Scoop

Envision winners

By Khadija Sharif

On Monday 20th April, a group of Sixth Form students travelled to central London, near Liverpool Street, as part of the Envision programme, marking an exciting moment after 20 weeks of hard work, collaboration and preparation. The event brought together five schools, each presenting their ideas to a panel of judges in a final showcase.

Our team presented on tackling inequality in education, focusing on our student-led tutoring club, School of Tomorrow. Since launching after February, the club has been growing steadily, offering support to younger students while building a positive and encouraging learning environment. It was amazing to be able to share something we've created and developed ourselves, and to reflect on the real impact it's already having.

Although presenting in front of judges was nerve-wracking, it was also a really exciting and memorable experience.



When we were announced as the winners, the room filled with excitement - everyone was genuinely so happy and proud of what we had achieved. Winning the trophy felt like a huge reward for all the effort put in over the past 20 weeks and it's definitely a moment we won't forget anytime soon.

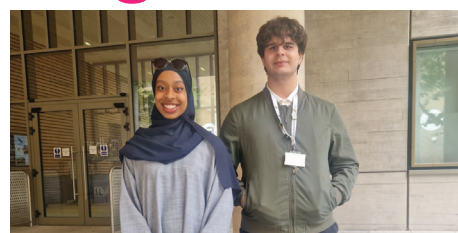
With School of Tomorrow continuing to grow, we're hoping to keep it running until July and pass it on to the next cohort so it can continue making a difference.

Trust networking event

By Khadija Sharif

On Wednesday 6th May 2026, Nicholas and I, as Year 12 students, had the exciting opportunity to attend a special networking event at Mulberry London Dock School hosted by Mulberry Schools Trust. Although the event only took place from 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm, it was an incredibly valuable and memorable experience for both of us.

During the event, we had the chance to meet and speak with around 50 governors, trustees, principals, headteachers and other important members of the trust. One of the main activities was speed networking, where we sat in a circle and spoke individually with two different people at a time before rotating around the room. These conversations allowed us to discuss our experiences at school, hear different perspectives from educational leaders and learn more about the work they do within the trust.



The experience helped us improve our communication and networking skills while also building our confidence when speaking to professionals. It was inspiring to meet so many influential people who are passionate about education and creating opportunities for students. Most importantly, it gave us the opportunity to proudly talk about how amazing our school is and the positive experiences we have had as students. Overall, despite only lasting an hour, the event was extremely enjoyable and rewarding, and it is something Nicholas and I will remember for a long time.

M&G finance and life skills

By Kadeja Ismail

Many Year 12s partook in the M&G Finance and life lessons programme.

On the first day, the first half of the session they looked at interview skills and how to achieve long-term goals into a step by step approach. They then looked at the importance of logical and critical thinking by playing activities which tested their problem-solving skills. On the second day they looked at analysing a pay slip and what each individual code meant, this was to help the student understand where their future income could end up. They looked at all the various expenses adults must pay for, from phone bills to insurance to understand that sacrifices adults must make to make ends meet. Furthermore, on the final third session students looked at how to invest money in a safe and secure way, whether that is through



government bonds, crypto currency or many other investment options. A point worth mentioning is if you decided you want to invest in the future ensure you have done enough research and do not invest more than you can lose. Moreover, an overlying main message communicated by the staff was the importance of a pension, although it may take out of your current wages and limit your lifestyle, your future self will be more thankful for you investing into them.



Exams are over

By Zahirah Ahmed, Year 13

After two years of back to back assessments, endless assignments and time lost over revision, A Level exams for Year 13 have finally come to an end. When you walk out of the exam hall after the last paper, there's an immense sense of relief at the fact that it's all over. I know I speak for all of Year 13 when I say I'm glad I won't ever have to sit another A Level exam again, but it's also a weird feeling, especially when for 2 years straight you're so focused on getting the best grade possible and now that it's out of the way, everything feels quiet.

No more flashcards scattered across my desk, no more convincing myself that I would start revising in five minutes, and no more carrying folders everywhere I went.

This exam season has been highly intense with a lot of pressure on us all to do well, and it wouldn't have been possible without the support of our teachers and our Head of Year, Mr Hibbs. They spend countless hours creating resources for us and curating engaging lessons, all so we have a chance to succeed. As we wait for results day, there's a sort of calmness as the hardest part is now over. My biggest piece of advice is to not let the stress of failure consume your mind and don't slack when things seem easy, because it only gets more difficult. It may seem like you have plenty of time until exams, but Year 13 goes by before you can even blink.

Work Experience Reflection

By Samuel Olatunbosun

Work experience (WEX) is a great way to gain real life experience and develop the skills needed in the workplace. I had the pleasure of completing my placement at CEPA, a financial firm, where I gained a real understanding of the importance of teamwork in a professional environment.

I was placed with one of the teams and had the opportunity to shadow experienced professionals who have worked in the industry for many years. Through this, I developed a greater understanding of the skills required in the workplace. One of the biggest lessons I learned was the importance of Excel and how widely it is used in a professional setting.

Overall, the experience opened my eyes to how a typical workplace functions and showed me that academic knowledge and strong social skills go hand in hand.

Biology trip

By Kadeja Ismail

On Thursday 4th June, Biology students took part in a compulsory practical in Greenwich Park. They travelled by the DLR train and then walked 30 minutes to reach the park. There, they met members of the Greenwich Centre who provided an informative introduction to the practical and explained the procedure. To begin the practical, they measured quadrants using two tape measures, they then surveyed a specific area to measure various characteristics of the organisms, including the measurements of species richness. They also examined Transects, looking at factors like light intensity soil depth and abundance of living organisms. To assess the accuracy of their findings, they employed Spearman's statistical test to refine the downward and directional correlations between two variables and test the null hypothesis. Overall, students who attended the trip thoroughly enjoyed the practical. Although it was a required activity, they found it enjoyable and would have applied for it regardless. It was a memorable experience that they felt was incredibly useful. A special thank you goes to Ms Imre and Mr Whyte for organising and attending the trip and the Greenwich centre who helped the students run the practical.

Dracula production

By Kashaur Semper-Knight

On the 21st April I watched the theatre production of Dracula for my Drama A Level and here are my thoughts:

Watching a one woman Dracula sounds like a gimmick, but this production proves how wrong that assumption can be. Cynthia Erivo takes on every role, from the brooding Count to the terrified victims and somehow makes each feel distinct, grounded and emotionally real.

The minimalist staging works in its favour. With almost no set and only subtle lighting shifts, the focus stays entirely on performance. Erivo's physicality is remarkable; a slight change in posture or breath is enough to transform her into a completely different character. Her Dracula is not just monstrous, but magnetic, drawing the audience in even as you feel uneasy watching him.

What makes this version stand out is its intimacy. Without other actors, the story becomes more psychological, almost like we are inside the Count's mind. At times, this can feel intense to the point of discomfort, but that seems intentional.

There are moments where the pacing dips slightly, particularly in transitions between characters, yet the sheer skill on display keeps you engaged. It's less about spectacle and more about control, voice and presence.

Overall, this Dracula is bold, experimental, and surprisingly moving, proving that sometimes one performer is more than enough. It also quietly reinterprets the classic themes of isolation and desire, making them feel modern without losing the gothic tone. By the end, you don't just remember the story, you remember the performance itself long after the scene fades to black.



Year 12 work experience 2026

By Kadeja Ismail

From 29th June to 3rd July, Year 12 students took part in a week of work experience, giving them the opportunity to gain valuable insight into the world of work.

Students were responsible for securing their own placements by applying to employers, using family connections, attending events or contacting organisations directly. Placements included banks, law firms, pharmacies and a wide range of other industries. For some students, Mr Khan was also able to arrange placements with employers, including legal work experience opportunities and placements at Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank.

Throughout the week, students developed valuable transferable skills such as independence, communication, teamwork and professionalism. The experience also helped many students decide

whether a particular career path is one they would like to pursue in the future. Even for those who discovered that a role or industry was not for them, the experience was equally valuable in helping them make more informed decisions about their future career choices.

Students are encouraged to include their work experience on their CVs, personal statements and LinkedIn profiles, as universities and future employers value the skills and experience gained through workplace learning. We also encourage students to stay connected with the professionals they met during the week, as these contacts may prove valuable in the future.

Overall, we hope every student gained meaningful insight into the wide range of career opportunities available and will use this experience to help shape their future aspirations.



Extra-curricular activities

By Kadeja Ismail

Earlier this term 12s and 13s have been applying to several amazing opportunities hosted by universities and professional workplaces. In particular on the 10th June, many students applied to the UCL Virtual Personal Statement which looked at the structures and what universities look for in personal statement. They also taught students how to upgrade their basic interests using super circulars in a precise, attracting way. An example used to demonstrate effective writing is the following. Instead of writing a slightly vague, generic answer like this "Studying History at A Level has helped me prepare for a degree in History because I've learned a lot about different periods, like the World Wars and Medieval history. I have written essays on various topics and discussed events like the causes of World War I. I also study English, which has helped me with reading and writing, and I feel this will help me

with my university work. These subjects have given me a good understanding of how to approach historical topics."

A better more comprehensive explanation would look like "My A Level History course has enhanced my ability to analyse primary and secondary sources, particularly when studying the causes and consequences of the World Wars. In my coursework, I critically examined how different historians interpret the impact of the Treaty of Versailles. Writing essays has helped me develop my argumentation skills, as I learned to structure complex ideas and support them with evidence. Additionally, studying English has improved my ability to read critically, enabling me to engage more deeply with historical texts and debates, which will be crucial for university level history." Hopefully, this example will help students adapt their personal statement to stand out amongst the millions of applicants.

Eid celebration

By Khadija Sharif

On Thursday 11th June, the Sixth Form Leadership Team proudly hosted its first ever Eid celebration, bringing students and staff together for an enjoyable and memorable evening.

Held in the rooftop greenhouse, the event provided a wonderful opportunity for the Sixth Form community to celebrate Eid in a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere. It was especially exciting for the Leadership Team to see an idea that began as a simple discussion turn into a successful event enjoyed by so many.

The evening was attended by a large number of sixth form students and teachers, who enjoyed a variety of delicious food served throughout the celebration. One of the highlights of the event was an engaging Kahoot quiz, which tested participants' knowledge of Eid and explored its significance and traditions. Members



of the Leadership Team also delivered speeches, sharing the importance of the occasion and reflecting on the value of bringing people together.

Overall, the event was a great success and a pleasant way to spend the evening. We hope this will be the first of many Eid celebrations hosted by the Sixth Form in the years to come.



Mock examinations

By Kadeja Ismail

From 15th to 26th June, Year 12 students completed their first set of mock examinations. This gave students the opportunity to experience sitting full exam papers under timed conditions alongside the rest of their year group.

The mock exams highlighted the importance of revising all topics covered throughout the year. Popular revision techniques include blurting, completing exam style questions, and using flashcards. Many students have also found Up Learn to be a useful revision resource, thanks to its combination of instructional videos and integrated exam questions.

Following the mock examinations, students will receive detailed feedback from their teachers to help identify areas for improvement. This feedback should be used throughout the summer holidays to strengthen understanding and avoid repeating the same mistakes in Year 13.

These mock examinations are an important opportunity for students to improve their predicted grades ahead of the UCAS application process, and we encourage everyone to use the experience to prepare for the year ahead.

Sixth Form volunteers

By Nicholas Ganz

Since the beginning of the academic year, Sixth Form students have played a vital role in the success of our Rise and Read programme, helping to improve literacy and reading ages across the lower school.

Each week, volunteers dedicate time before lessons to read with younger students. Their enthusiasm and commitment have ensured excellent attendance and created a positive experience for everyone involved.

The impact of these incredible students is clear: younger readers have grown in confidence, developed stronger reading habits, and made progress with their literacy skills.

A huge thank you to all Sixth Form volunteers who have supported Rise and Read this year. Your patience, positivity, and dedication are making a lasting difference. I look forward to seeing the programme continue to grow and inspire future generations of readers. Have a relaxing summer.

The Mark Evison Foundation

By Teddy Sharpe

Do you enjoy adventure? Do you like pushing yourself? Do you enjoy new opportunities? If so, the Mark Evison Foundation could be for you.

The Mark Evison Foundation is a charity that provides up to £500 in funding for young people to complete a self designed expedition or challenge, planned and carried out independently. Projects can take many different forms, provided they are well planned and achievable.

Ammar Nour, Samuel Olatunbosun, Mohammed Waseem-Rahman and I have planned a week long hike along the West Highland Way in Scotland. After carefully developing our proposal with support from the Foundation, our application was accepted and we received funding. We are due to begin our challenge on the 18th, with all the necessary equipment either funded or borrowed from the school.

This is an incredible opportunity to experience something we could not do here in London, while challenging ourselves both physically and mentally. We are looking forward to seeing what we are capable of and making the most of this unique experience.

