

Acton High School



Acton High School Newsletter

July 2009



Raising Aspirations at AHS - A Visit to Microsoft by Mr Mothada, Assistant Head Teacher



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On Monday the 15th of June 2009, 10 ICT Students from Year 9 went on a prestigious visit to Microsoft's UK Headquarters. We arrived around 10:00 AM at Microsoft's smart and huge campus in Reading. Danielle Steele from Microsoft gave a talk about careers at the company and how they recruit students from University. They have a programme called MACH (Microsoft Academy for University Hire) to recruit students, Danielle herself was recruited through this scheme. Danielle is a Business Manager for a project with the NHS. Her project is worth £43 million, she has a lot of responsibility for someone who is only 26 years old.

We then had a talk from a technology evangelist for Microsoft, which in practice means he advises people on where and how technology might be useful to them. He talked about the software and how it is used.

One programmer who spoke to us enjoyed having his technology out in the world, and indicated he was well paid as are most very experienced programmers (£100,000 with bonus). He ended by encouraging people to take up programming, finishing on the note that "Your software could change the world".

After various presentations and demonstrations our heads were buzzing with all the new information we had taken on board. It was a fascinating day and many of the students were so inspired by the trip they said they wanted to work at Microsoft after graduating from University.

Year 11

The Year 11s have now left but they made sure they will be remembered with a grand send off at Ealing Town Hall. The Leavers Prom was well attended by staff and students who enjoyed a night of good food and dancing in sweltering temperatures. All the students looked fantastic, the boys bringing the smart sophistication and the girls pouring on the glamour. Many thanks to everyone who managed to make sure they were sent off in style.

GCSE results come out on Thursday 20th August. Good luck to all the students, we hope they get the results that their hard work deserves.

Year 10 Round Up

The second half of the summer term has been a busy time for Year 10, starting with the mock exams, which ran smoothly and were well attended. Most students have their results now and should be congratulated for their efforts. Well Done!

Year 10 Flexi Days this term have had a huge focus on careers, and 'experiencing the industry'. On Flexi

Day students visited a number of work-places to gain experience of what it could be like if they were to choose to work in that industry for a career. Visits included Coca-Cola, Armed Forces, Thames Valley University and West Thames College. This was a valuable experience, and was an enjoyable day for staff and students, and no one came back from the army dry!



Coca Cola



Pirbright Army Training



Hair and Beauty



Thames Valley University

In addition to Futures day, was Careers Taster Day, in which a number of professionals came into school to run workshops for students. Visitors included British Gas for Engineering, the BBC for Media, the Metropolitan Police Force, Motor Vehicle Training as well as Sports Martial Arts to name a few. All the workshop leaders were impressed by the enthusiastic participation of students - By all accounts, another great day!

Looking Ahead

After the summer break we will move into Year 11, where everyone needs to consider the direction they want to take once they finish school. Over the summer students should think about colleges, and college courses, or work-based learning - hopefully the programme of career and industry based Flexi-days has given students some ideas about this. Any one in doubt could browse college websites for courses, or visit connexions for advice.

In addition to this, there are a wealth of taster courses (Arts, Fashion, Sports, Digital Media, Film and more) available throughout London over the holidays as part of the Summer Uni Programme - register at www.summeruni.org to see what's available in your area.

London Transport Museum Partnership Culminates in Exhibition

The London Transport Museum has been working on a collaborative project with gifted and talented students from years 7, 8 and 9 for a year now. Students involved in the project were given exclusive access to the Depot's object collection. They then worked in small groups to interview a variety of London Transport personnel and in the case of year 9 students Raj Valgi and Joe Billany turned these interviews into podcasts which can be accessed via MP4 players and ipods. On Thursday 9th July the end of the first year of the project was celebrated with an exhibition in the foyer of the school. This will be in place until the end of term and the display case of London Transport memorabilia will be long term fixture.

Have a great holiday Year 10!

Acton High Films get debut on the Big Screen at the BFI

On June 22nd 20 students from year 9 attended the British Film Institute to see their films screened at the BFI on the South Bank.

It was an amazing experience to see their hard work come together on the big screen. It was also fascinating to see the films produced by other schools and the great variation in tackling the theme of 'Inspiration'.

Well done to Talha Amjad, Soloman Perkins, Princess Bamgbose, Kevin Camuendo-Pineda, Jodie Ollivierre, Karina Kozłowska, Michael Tullio, Josiah Bailey - Levine, Patrycja Kozuch, Zeinab Salamah, Robbie Wills, Stephen Kikomeko, Aziza Noor, Olivia Reid, Argeanna Smith, Jack Talbot, Zahir Ahmed and Ahmed Ghazi.



'Pupil of the Term' Summer 2009

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been awarded

DUG	FSO	GMC	HJO
Jamie Newman	Anthony Porter	Kittisak Pomnongsan	Aram Shahbazyan
Rebecca McInerney	Amal Yusuf	Karina Kozłowska	Agnieszka Tomczak
HKW	LCU	NPE	VSW
Devante Clement-Peters	Kerrie Gregan-Francis	Sonny Connors	Jensen Taylor
Sarah Sherif	Kean Thomas	Nina Lyuckanova	Ana Pavicevic

Pupils of the year will be announced at the final assembly on Friday 17th July.

Isle of Wight Trip

An action packed and fun filled weekend was had by the Year 8 students who went on the school trip to the Kingwood Activity Centre on the Isle of Wight. The trip was organised by our PE Department and included activities such as high ropes, caving, and climbing.

Our students rose to the challenges set before them.... and had fun too!



18th June - Key Stage 3 Drama Club

An entertaining and melodic evening was shared with parents, students and staff, in a musical presentation of Fairy Tales. Well done to the following students who have worked extremely hard on their performances over the last term.

Ian Halliday, Mohamad Elaasar, Abdulaziz Saber, Jasprit Singh, Jeniequa Quamina Amandeep Goulati, Gabriel Hawkins-Pottier, Nicole Elkins, and Haneen Farooq.

UK Maths Challenge

On April 30th, some Year 7 and 8 students took part in a National Junior Maths Challenge. This was done under exam conditions and posted to the University of Leeds. We are very pleased to announce the winners:

Gold: Gabriel Hawkins-Pottier **Silver:** Kristian Jukic, Jennifer Kikomeko, Max Lawrence Oscar Zhang **Bronze:** Mohammed Almaliki, Dyman Ford; Jimmy Gardner, Samir Shaffi, Adam Mandziuk, David McInnes, Michael Kukubor, Billy Perigo, Frank Brewster, Harry Byrne, Ancil Abin and Zakaria Ahmed.

Year 8 Family Day - Gunnersbury Park on 12th June

This was a day of sporting activities which really brought out the competitive spirit in our students. Tutor groups played against one another in a variety of ball games but at the end of the day there could only be one cup winner. Congratulations to 8WHA. Fun continued in between games with a 'Circus Workshop' where our students practised spinning plates, juggling balls, pedal-goes and much more. Many thanks to all of those who did turn up and give their sup-

port. Together with an excellent Year 8 attendance and lovely sunshine, it was an extremely successful day.

Jodie Ollivierre, Karina Kozłowska, Michael Tullio, Josiah Bailey -Levine, Patrycja Kozuch, Zeinab Salamah, Robbie Wills, Stephen Kikomeko, Aziza Noor, Olivia Reid, Argeanna Smith, Jack Talbot, Zahir Ahmed and Ahmed Ghazi.



Flexi Days – Year 7

It has been a busy and exciting final term for the year 7, as they have participated in three flexi days since returning from their break.

Languages : A carousel of 5 activities / workshops, these consisted of the use of ICT, French games, Linguascope, Atantot, French charades and Pictionary to enhance the pupils understanding of French words. The final activity was something new and different for the year, which was an introductory Spanish session group.

Sport Challenge: The students had a fantastic time at Gunnersbury Park where each tutor group competed against each other. The activities comprised of Orienting, Hoops race with costumes, Dragon truck assembled to then be raced and finally a Tug or War. This was a

competition the young people relished; with each tutor group determined to collect maximum points at all cost. There could only be one winner and 7ARO collected the maximum tally of points.

Young Enterprise

This was a series of workshops the young people participated in, based on the London 2012 Olympics Games. The idea is to create a business model by developing an Olympic village for the athletes, Business, Hotel, Resources and to design an Olympic stadium within their budget. The young people thoroughly enjoyed their activities...



Maths- Gifted & Talented

The Year 7 gifted and talented Maths students have been working on a project to learn Circle Theorems.

They have been **collaborating** and working **independently** to produce a power point presentation that could be used to teach Circles to other students.

The project was pioneered by Zara Siddique, 7JLF and Mustafa Khadr, 7ARO whom both achieved a level 7 in Maths this year.

Shinpei Inui, 7ARO, Samuel Freeman Fox 7MWI and Lois Turnbull 7MWI has since joined the project.

Study Support

This is a facility offered three evenings per week to support students with homework, research and extra support sessions will resume next academic year.

The sessions are led by the PSA and it is hoped that parents will encourage their children to continue to utilise these resources to equip and assist with their academic progression.

Uniform

Please ensure your child is in the correct uniform for the start of the next academic year.

Red Polo Shirt

Blue Sweat Jumper

Black Trouser / Skirt

Plain Black Shoes - note: No other stripes or pattern on shoes

Punctuality, Attendance & Absence

School starts at 8.45am please ensure you are on the school premises before.

Please can parents ensure that students attend school on a regular basis, in order for your child to meet the government target of an average of 95% attendance.

We would appreciate if you were able to book medical appointments outside of school hours, whenever possible.

The school must be informed if your child is unable to attend, also ensure that an absence note is completed when returning to school.