



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It has been another year of exceptional achievements by our students. I was particularly impressed by our Year 10 students' approach to sitting their first GCSE examination. In the Summer Term, they sat their RE GCSE and they will receive their results in August. Their RE teachers worked commendably hard to support the students and the students responded in kind, turning up for early morning and after school revision sessions. Collectively and individually, the year group demonstrated an impressive commitment to their preparation and revision for their examinations and I will be crossing my fingers on results day, hoping that they achieve the excellent results they deserve.

This year was the 10-year anniversary of the City of London Academy Islington's Combined Cadet Force (CCF). Our CCF was the very first to be established as part of the Department for Education's Expansion Programme. The programme aimed to set up CCFs in state schools, where previously it had tended to be elite private schools that had CCFs. Whilst in some other schools, the CCFs that were founded as part of the programme have come and gone, our CCF has gone from strength

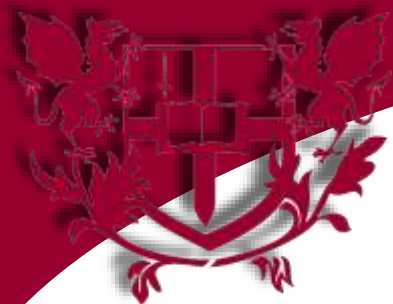
to strength. We had a fantastic celebration event to mark the 10-year anniversary at COLAI and a further event at Armoury House, the Honorable Artillery Company's HQ in the City.

Lieutenant Colonel Adam Bate, Commanding Officer of the HAC joined our on-site event to see our cadets parade and to award prizes and promotions to a number of our proud cadets. At both events, it was brilliant to have so many family members in attendance. In the pages of this newsletter, you can read about the adversity and adventures experienced by our cadets on their summer camp.

We have just finished the academic year with our Activities Week. The week started with COLAI's inaugural Culture Day. There were fantastic assemblies in which students spoke with knowledge and pride about their heritage and put on a range of fantastic dance and musical performances. It was lovely to see students embracing the spirit of the day by attending the school in cultural dress. It was a pleasant reminder of the culturally diverse community that we are, where the broad range of cultural influences enriches our lives and experiences.

We had many highs this year, but tragically, earlier this term we received the news that one of our Year 10 students, Leo Reid, had died. His death was the





# THINKFORWARD

result of senseless violence, and we are devastated by this loss. He had only joined COLAI in February but had quickly formed a strong friendship group. Leo was an intelligent, humorous, loyal and aspirational young man and I know that he would have achieved great things in his life had it not been so cruelly cut short. The year group have, understandably **been deeply affected by Leo's death, but have** shown a real fortitude in their support of each other through a very difficult time. I know that you will all join me in expressing our sincere condolences to his family. For any parent to lose their child in this manner is a tragedy.

We look forward to welcoming your children back to the Academy in September, but in the meantime, I would like to wish you all a safe, enjoyable and restful holiday.

Ms Jacob  
Executive Principal



## Ardian Business Mentoring

Ardian is one of the largest European private equity investment companies, and they have been hosting the Year 10 ThinkForward cohort for mentoring sessions this term. This involves six sessions covering topics such as skills and qualities, CVs, interview techniques, goal setting and career direction. The Ardian staff team have volunteered their time, expertise, and advice to support the Year 10s right at the start of their professional journeys.

## 1-1 Coaching

The fundamental part of the ThinkForward project is the 1-1 coaching everyone receives. These sessions focus on fostering their ambitions, identifying opportunities, and helping overcome any barriers to achieving those goals. Over one-hundred 1-1 sessions are expected to be completed by the summer break.

Mr D. Pokorny  
ThinkForward Coach



**ARDIAN**



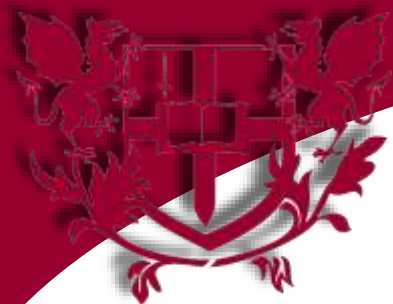
# RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND

## PGL Revision Weekend

On 31<sup>st</sup> March, 40 Year 11 students were taken on a revision residential trip to the PGL activity centre in Liddington. Students took part in intensive lessons in English, mathematics, and science. They combined this with adventure activities such as zip wiring and raft building. It was a hugely successful trip where students enjoyed themselves and developed their skills in core subjects to prepare for their imminent GCSE examinations. I would like to thank all the members of staff for the hard work and support during this trip.

Mr A. Smith  
Year 11 Strategic Lead





# PERFORMING ARTS

## Careers in Music and Music in the 21st Century Project

This year a group of Year 9 and Year 8 students had the opportunity to experience the life of a musician in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and **explore possible careers in today's music industry**. We completed two separate workshops designed specifically for each year group introducing them to the world of music technology and design and music performance. On the days of the workshops, the students



gathered in the music room, and we headed to *Pirate Studios* in Camden. There, they had a tour around the facilities and were shown the various recording, rehearsal, broadcast and DJing rooms.

When the tour was over the students got the chance to practise their musical skills and learn new ones. They had the opportunity to jam in the rehearsal studio, record their original songs in the music production studio and learn some basic DJing skills in the DJing room. Additionally, the Year 9 group spoke to professionals from the industry about careers options in music and how to access them.

All groups left the workshops happy and excited to continue on with their music studies in the Academy. Our hosts at Pirate Studios were

impressed with the students' thirst for knowledge, inquisitive minds and excellent behaviour.

## Wren300 – Raising the Roof

As part of our enrichment programme, our Year 7 students have been asked to **participate in a City Schools' project that is dedicated to the life of Sir Christopher Wren**. Wren was a mathematician, scientist and arguably the best-known British architect. Our students have been participating in an exciting year-long project involving music, visual arts, and creative writing.

On the day of the first workshop, we headed to St Stephen Walbrook. There, the students were briefed on the project, introduced to the life and work of Sir Christopher Wren and then participated in a singing rehearsal, followed by a crafts and poetry workshop.

The second workshop took place a month later. On the day, we headed once more to St Steven Walbrook, where students from all the participating City schools had a singing rehearsal **followed by the afternoon spent at St Paul's Cathedral** where students had a tour and had the chance to sing under the Dome.

After each workshop the students became even more enthusiastic about the project, and they are now looking forward to the final concert.

Mr Tsolakis  
Head of Music









# LIBRARY

The summer term was a very studious time in the library as the Year 11s were putting in their final preparations for their GCSEs.

We have been very excited to receive lots of new books for our non-fiction section covering so many different topics such as history, music, sports stars and pet care. We have something for everyone.

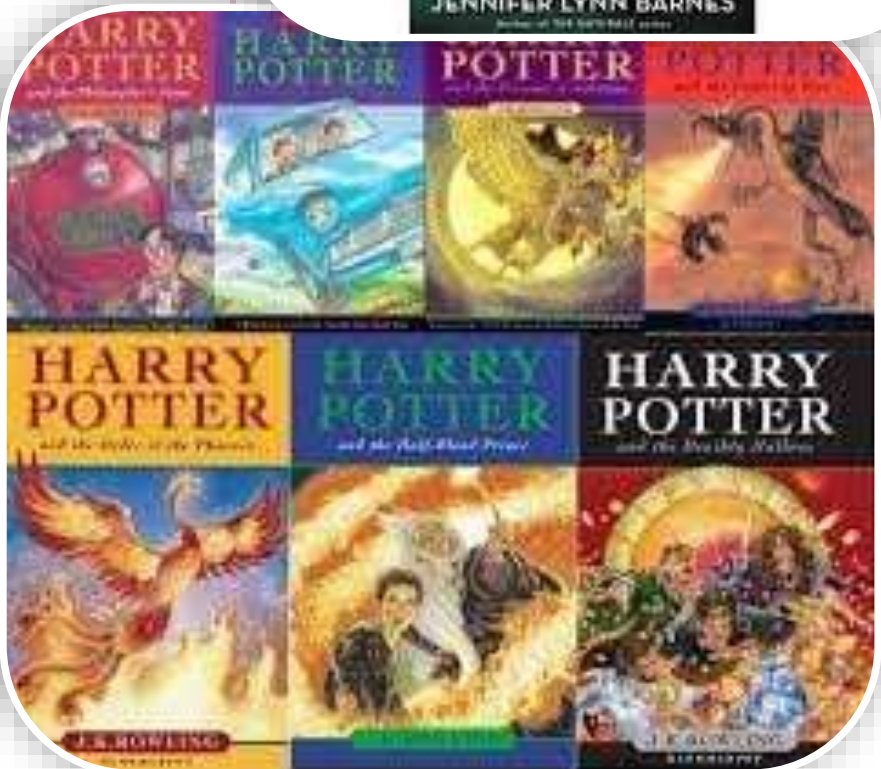
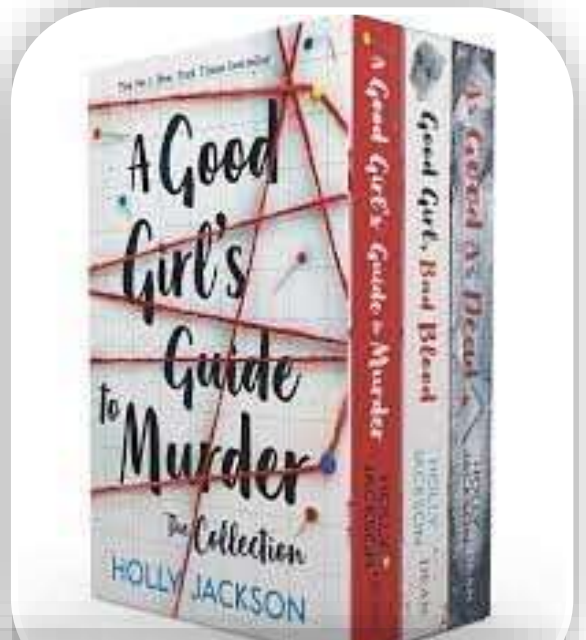
The COLAI chess club has built a thriving community on Tuesdays and Fridays and will most definitely be looking for new members in the Autumn Term.

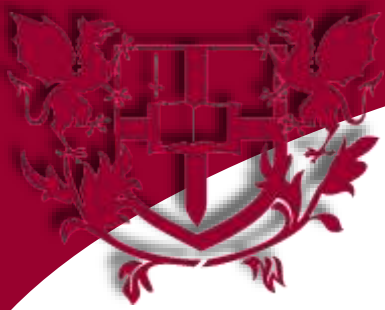
The six-week holidays is the perfect opportunity to get stuck into a new book, or even a series. If you have watched the Harry Potter movies but never read the books, then maybe get started on them over the summer. If you like crime and mystery, then try 'A Good Girl's Guide to Murder' or 'The Inheritance Games'.

I would also like to use this as an opportunity to thank the fabulous sixth form librarians who have worked so hard throughout this year to ensure the smooth running of the library and their endless homework support and mentoring, they have provided for our younger students,

Have a lovely summer and don't stop reading!

Miss F. McKnight  
LRC Manager





# EVENTS

## GLIDING TRIP

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of June, Miss Wilding (Head of Year 10) and Ricky (City Year volunteer), facilitated a reward trip for a group of Year 10 students to Wycombe Air Park in High Wycombe, where they had the opportunity fly high at an altitude of 2000 ft. Each student had their turn to be in the glider towed by a small aircraft, which was released at a certain height. Students were in air for 10-15 minutes before gliding to a safe landing.

The people who work there gave us a warm welcome and provided all the support and guidance for a safe flight. During the day, we received personal tours, which provided historical context about the air centre and the sport. Overall, the day was a success, and the crew were really impressed by our students' performance and sensibility.

This trip is organised and subsidised by the Worshipful Company of Air Pilots, who offer this fantastic opportunity to ten of our students every year. We are very grateful for this offer as it is a brilliant way to reward students who have shown an outstanding commitment to their studies.

Mr R. Kolluri  
City Year Volunteer



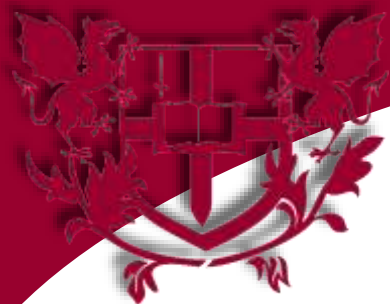




# YEAR 11 LEAVERS' DAY

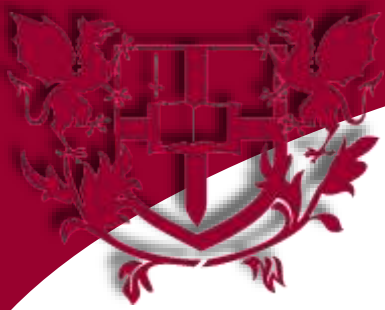






# YEAR 11 PROM





# SCIENCE

## YEAR 9 MASTERCLASS PROGRAMME

In the Summer Term, a series of masterclasses in a wide range of subjects and a variety of engaging topics were organised for students in Year 9 who have shown outstanding academic promise in Key Stage 3.

On Thursday 22nd June, we attended the first masterclass session on biology. We learned about how the heart operates and had the opportunity to **dissect a cow's heart, which was really interesting.** Other masterclasses covered modern Greek society, politics and classics.

Mr T. Noutch  
Head of Year 9



## COLAI students explore cutting edge scientific research

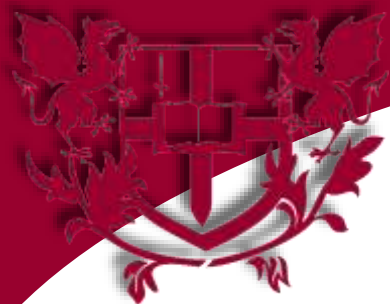
Y10 and Y12 students went on a trip to the Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition to see cutting edge scientific research presented by researchers from universities, industry, and schools. Students were able to take part in drumming for health to help cognitive skills and mental health, test their dexterity by trialling the use of micro-robotics for eye surgery and use sensory and decision-making skills to forecast and plan for the next volcanic eruption.



They learned how zebra fish share 80% of our genes and how they can be used to help research into mental health. They were able to drive a mars rover and discover how its technology is used in detecting bone disease, explore how lab-







grown muscles and self-powered clothing can improve recovery for stroke patients and how chromatography can be used to personalise chemotherapy in children.



The schools' presentations showcased research by Y10 and Y12 students into sleep patterns and how these are affected during exams. A picnic afterwards in St James Park with a view of Buckingham Palace helped them improve their geography of London.

Ms K. Bell  
Curriculum Leader for Science

## Level Biology trip to Kew Gardens

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, Ms Agirbas, Mr Moore and Ms Fitzgerald took the A-Level Biology students to Kew Gardens in Richmond. As part of the Biology course, students are required to complete a number of practical assignments.

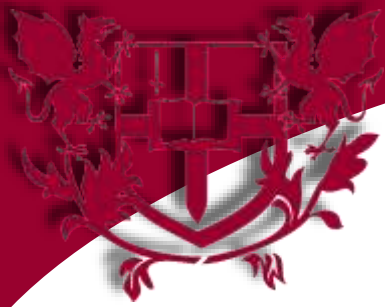
During their visit to Kew, students attended workshops to investigate the relationship between organisms and their environment using fieldwork techniques and specialist equipment. They completed a variety of tasks to analyse and

present their data while evaluating the methodologies and considering limitations.

Students were able to develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of working scientifically needed for their exams next summer.

Ms O. Agirbas  
Teacher of Science





# SPORTS

Year 7's and 8's were selected to go to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Aquatics Park and learned how to row on water. They had a fantastic time steering a bell boat and a skerry!



Well done to the year 8's and 9's for coming in 3rd place at the Islington Borough Football Tournament! They made a huge come back and demonstrated some excellent football skills. A specific well done to Miya Bwho was awarded player of the tournament for her outstanding performances in every match.



A massive well done to everyone who took part in Sports Day! From running, throwing, jumping and dancing, everyone made it so special. Fletchers stole the hearts of SLT winning the banner competition, however there could only be one winner and that was **WEAVERS!** Which house will break Weavers' two-year reign next year? We can't wait to find out.

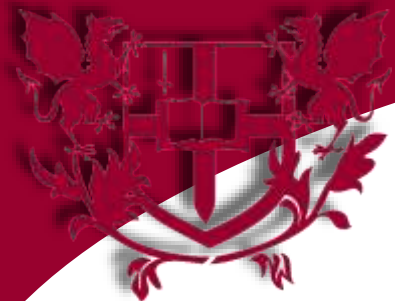
Ms H. Mustafa  
Second in Charge in the PE Department











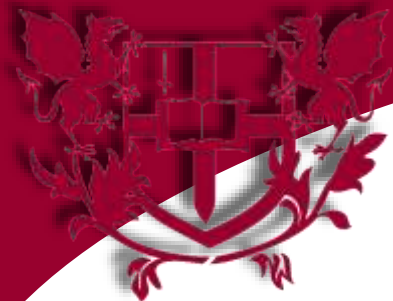
# SPORTS DAY





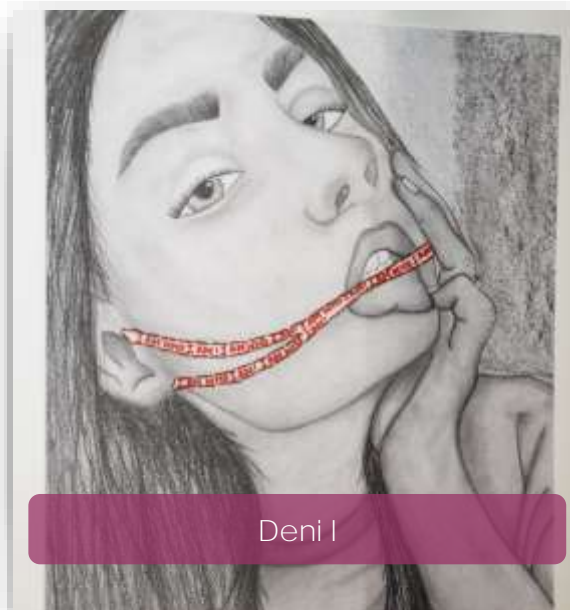






# ART

## SUMMER TERM SHOWCASE



Deni I



Kyla B



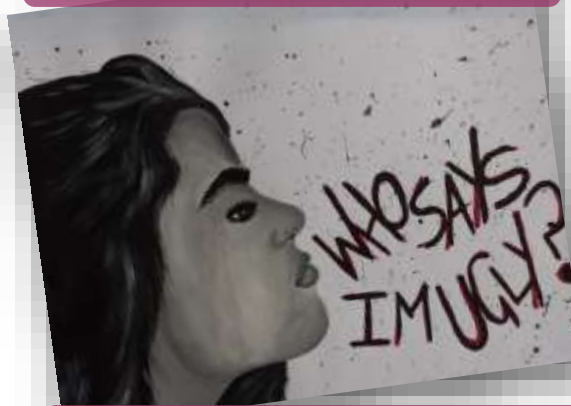
Aaliyah K



Liliya K



Jack T



Aaliyah K





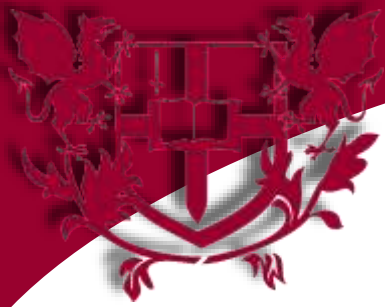
Jack T



Erika F



Selen C



# TRIPS



## “Groundhog Day” Theatre trip

On July 3rd, Ms Kiley-Smith and Mr Porter led students and staff on a wonderful trip to the Old Vic Theatre to see 'Groundhog Day'. Situated in small-town America, the story revolves around

year, and though the final one for this term, we all can't wait to see what the Drama Department has in store for the next academic year!

Ms. A Theodotou  
Teacher of English



Phil, whose day is repeated in an endless tirade of monotony, until finally the curse breaks, allowing him to continue his life a better man. The mix of Year 9 and 10 drama students loved the hyperbolic set and romantic subplot, but Ms Kiley Smith was on hand to explain the theatrical effects of miniaturisation, repetition and the fabulously overt choreography! This trip came after a long line of brilliant drama escapades this

## Year 7 “The Tempest” theatre trip

On 10<sup>th</sup> March, thirty students from Year 7 were chosen to attend a performance of ‘The Tempest’, by William Shakespeare, at The Globe Theatre, on the South Bank.

Led by Ms Malkin, and accompanied by Ms Mansy and Omar, students enjoyed a spectacle of vibrant, non-naturalistic staging, flamboyant costumes, dance, and the flight of the spirit of the air, Ariel, across the stage.





Students had been studying the play during the Autumn Term, and having it made manifest on stage really consolidated their learning, as well as providing a treat of an afternoon!

Ms Malkin  
Second in Charge in English

## City, University of London Campus Tour

Miss Pinn, Shay, and Ricky assisted a group of Year 9 students in going on an industrial tour to City, University of London, under Mr. Nouth's administration. The majority of the students were able to develop their team management, leadership, and public-speaking abilities as they spent the day designing an innovative course.



Students were thereafter divided into groups for a fantastic university tour conducted by the campus ambassadors. Students were divided into teams in the afternoon to engage in debates about the law, human rights, immigration policies and crime rates. We concluded by going over a particular case study, which increased student involvement.

Mr R. Kolluri  
City Year Volunteer

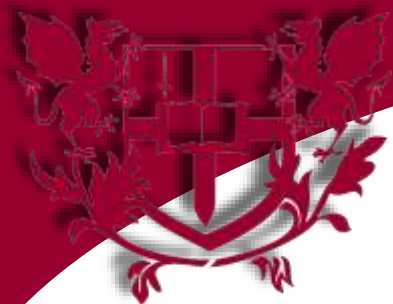
## Humanities Summer Term



This has been another exciting term across the Humanities Department. Year 10 students demonstrated incredible resilience and work ethic in preparation for their RE GCSE. The number of students attending revision sessions before and after school was testament to their impressive attitude, and will help them enter Year 11 ready to succeed in their remaining examinations. We are so excited to see the outcome of their hard work on Results Day. Year 10 Geographers also completed field work at the Emirates Stadium as part of their GCSE course, where they assessed the extent of regeneration in the area. This involved quantitative data analysis of various features of regeneration and conducting interviews with members of the public.

Meanwhile, Year 7 and 8 students worked exceptionally hard in preparation for the end of year exams and produced some outstanding results! In year 7, special shoutouts to Tiago F, Isabel VB, Conrad P and Henon A! Top performers in year 8 include Holger L, Honeko S, Amy N, Jordan A and Elsa Z.

Mr M. Segal  
Teacher of Geography



# CCF NEWS

## Summer Camp

The City of London Academy Islington (HAC) Combined Cadet Force set off on summer camp on the 1<sup>st</sup> July. This was the first ever all outdoors camp we had embarked on and the cadets were excited, if a little nervous. Having arrived at Mereworth Woods, the cadets set to erecting their Bashas, the waterproof sheet tied up to trees and propped up by poles which was to be their home for the next two days. The first night was uneventful and the cadets enjoyed sleeping outdoors, under the stars.



The second day was a day of Fieldcraft, with cadets taking part in 4-person section attacks on an enemy target. The cadets were firing blank rounds from the L98A2 cadet rifle and were able to practise the formation and tactics required to patrol and clear an enemy area. The cadets returned to camp but overnight the heavens opened up and all of the cadets had to make it through an evening of torrential rain. It is testament to their discipline and fortitude that they were able to make it through the night without incident.

On day three, the cadets departed to the Paddle Cabin at Bainbridge Leisure for a day of paddleboarding. The cadets had an amazing day out on the River Medway learning how to use the paddleboards with varying levels of skills and expertise. Very few could resist the urge to jump

in the river at the end which led to some very soggy cadets returning to camp. Having spent the last two nights under Bashas, the cadets moved camp and spent their first night in tents.

On day four, the cadets were joined by an SAS survival expert. Under the expert tutelage of their staff, the cadets learnt how to put together shelters from the materials immediately available to them. They also learnt basic survival skills which included the construction of devices that would allow them to survive without the creature comforts we are all so used to. Their second night in tents was made substantially easier by a large delivery from the local chip shop which kept everyone's spirits up.

On Friday, the cadets spent the day taking down the camp and packing up to go home. Once back at the Academy, they all helped out by getting everything unloaded and packed away. It was yet another successful camp for the contingent, including cadets from both COLAI and Highbury Grove, and we look forward to the New Recruits Camp, for the current Year 8 students, in December.



Mr A. Hesketh  
Curriculum Leader for English





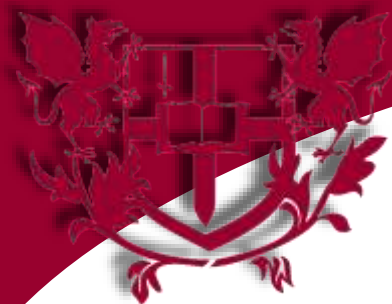
# Combined Cadet Force

## Cadet Parade, Vellum Book Signing and Pryce VC Troop Annual Dinner

On 1<sup>st</sup> July the Contingent held our annual celebration at the HAC. This started with a full unit parade in front of Armoury House, where we were inspected by our Honorary Colonel, Maj Gen Lalor. This was followed by new cadets signing the Vellum Book. This book was made for the contingent when it was formed over 10 years ago and has been signed by all cadets who complete a year of training. After the parade and book signing, we returned outside for refreshments. This gave our cadets, staff and families the opportunity to talk about what they had done throughout the year, and to take photographs with families.

Later in the evening, we held the third "Pryce VC Troop Annual Dinner" for cadet non-commissioned officers, our young leaders who hold positions of rank. This was an introduction to a formal military style dinner in a beautiful setting. We were also joined by a number of former cadets supporting the evening. As a final event before our summer camp, this was a great celebration.





# HEADS OF YEAR!

## YEAR 7

“Pulled together, draped in success”



The academic year has gone by in a flash! I feel like it was yesterday that I was meeting all the Year 7 students back in July when they came in for their induction day, all fresh-faced and nervous as to what

secondary school would bring for them. As we now approach the Summer, it is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the year now that our Year 7s are fully integrated into the COLAI community.

There have been plenty of highs to celebrate this year including the sporting achievements, debating competitions, music and drama trips, and ending on a high with Activities Week.

Year 7 have had a real transition getting used to the behaviour systems, and the expectations that are required in secondary school. I am proud of how well the majority of students adapted and settled in this year. We have had some real success academically too with some students demonstrating high levels of knowledge and understanding in their assessments and **improvements in some students' reading levels.**

I want to thank all the parents and carers for their support this year, creating and building positive and supportive relationships with staff and the pastoral team to enable their children to get the best opportunities and outcomes. I wish you all a well-deserved and restful summer break. I hope that you all return to us ready to start Year 8, no longer the youngest of the school, and ready lead by example for our new cohort of Year 7s. I look forward to another year working with this group of students in Year 8.

Ms E. Maloney

## YEAR 8

“Stay sharp and hit the mark”



I cannot believe this incredible year group is about to go into Year 9! Another year truly has flown by. We have seen the year group flourish from being the youngest in the school to now more confident, more articulate

and more passionate individuals, truly making their mark on the COLAI community. Successes **have come throughout the year and it's a joy to know that we are ending the year in style, providing opportunities for our students in Activities Week.**

I want to take this opportunity to thank the year groups tutors for their endless support and a special thank you to our new PSM, Rasina Brooks, who is an asset to the year group. Her warmth, joy and kindness is an addition that we all benefit from.

I want to thank all the parents and carers for their support this year. It really does work best when we are a team. I hope that each and every one of you has an enjoyable summer break. Remain safe and return to us ready to have a totally fresh start; being Year 9 students, with opportunities and choices about your future in front of you and picking your GCSE options. Truly this is the start of your future into adulthood, where anything is possible

Ms A. Dear



## YEAR 9

“Dream, believe, achieve”



The Summer Term has seen the Year 9s commence the transition to Key Stage 4. Students have had taster lessons in their options subjects and have all been set some preliminary GCSE

work to undertake prior to the holidays. Over the holidays, students are being encouraged to research their subject area using the wider reading list teachers have provided to help prepare students for the start of Year 10.

Many students were able to attend the ‘Steps to Success’ Conference in the City of London to learn about different careers in the city. All students were also afforded the chance to visit City, University of London for a ‘taster day’ which involved a tour of the campus and discussions with university students about life in higher education.

To cap it all off, we have had some days to celebrate the accomplishments over the past year. Students took part in COLAI’s inaugural Culture Day which was extraordinarily well-received and offered students a great chance to learn about other cultures and proudly teach others about their culture. It was also great to be able to hear about all of the exciting extra-curricular opportunities students selected and participated in during the Activities Week. Finally, my personal highlight, was at our awards assembly on the final day of term. There have been so many achievements from so many different Year 9 students and it was wonderful to see how proud students were of each other and themselves for the progress they have made.

Mr T. Nouch

## YEAR 10

“Together everyone achieves more”



Year 10 we have made it! I remember standing up in our first assembly together telling you how quickly this year will pass and to make sure you make every second count. You are now in a strong position to

transition into Year 11 and get the GCSE grades you are all deserving of.

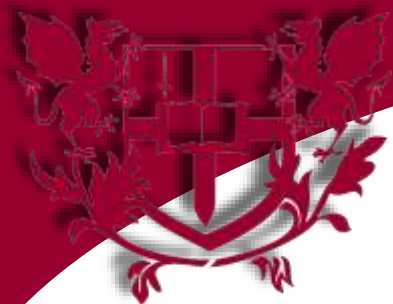
This year has taught me a lot about you as individuals and more importantly how we work as a team, especially when faced with adversity. Your resilience, care and love for one another when challenged with difficult situations is unmatched, I’m very proud of you.

Year 11 will be a very different year for you, you will start to work through ‘the last of everything’ at COLAI, your last half terms, your last Christmas etc. All I ask if you make every day and every lesson count. Work incredibly hard on your attendance and make sure when you are in school you are engaging in every lesson to give you every possible chance you have to succeed and achieve great things.

I will be keeping a close eye on you all, and in your words ‘keep popping up’ in places to make sure you are on track. You are in the best hands next year with Mr Smith and I wish you a very successful year.

Good luck Year 10, it has been a pleasure.

Ms K. Wilding



# HEADS OF YEAR!

## YEAR 11

“Dream, believe, achieve”



Year 11 students worked incredibly hard over the academic year to prepare themselves for their recent GCSE examinations. They

attended numerous revision booster classes after school, during weekends, and holiday periods.

It was great to see the students celebrate their work and achievements during their prom which was a fantastic event and I look forward to seeing all Year 11 students on 24<sup>th</sup> August when they attend the Academy to receive their GCSE results. Until then, I would like to wish all students a lovely break and hope that they continue to look after each other and spend time with family and friends.

I would also like to thank the hugely committed staff body at the Academy who have worked with the Year 11 students on their journey through school, supporting them to achieve their full potential.

Mr A. Smith

## SIXTH FORM

“Together everyone achieves more”



Congratulations to our 2023 A Level cohort who took their exams this term. Our Year 13s had worked incredibly hard, and their maturity and diligence in

the lead up to and during the exams was commendable. We look forward to celebrating their results with them this August.

The full cohort of Year 12 were fortunate enough to visit Deloitte’s Head Office for the day earlier this term to receive advice on interview and presentation skills. There were several pieces of outstanding feedback our students received from colleagues at Deloitte and this theme of positive feedback has been echoed in other enrichment opportunities the cohort have engaged with such as the Tutoring to Thrive programme at City of London School. The work Year 12 have put in this year in extra-curricular activities will serve them well in their applications to university and apprenticeship programmes which they will work on over the summer and into Year 13.

I wish all sixth form students a restful and enjoyable summer break.

Ms S. Vale





## 2023 Autumn Term Dates

Wednesday 6th September – Friday 20th October 2023

### Wednesday 6th September 2023

- Start of term for Year 7
- Year 12 late enrolment – 9.00am to 12.00pm

### Thursday 7th September 2023

- Start of term for Years 8 to 13
- Half term: Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October

Monday 30th October 2023 – Thursday 21st December 2023

Winter holiday: Friday 22nd December 2023 – Friday 5th of January 2024

## Inset Days

Monday 4th September 2023

Tuesday 5th September 2023

Friday 17th November 2023

Monday 8th January 2024

Friday 2nd February 2024