

Welcome back to a new half term

I'm delighted to be the new Headteacher of Hendon School. I'd like to thank everyone for all of their support, this was very much appreciated. I look forward to working with you all in the next stage of Hendon School's development.

Before the break I spent time with each year group asking the key questions "What do we love about Hendon?" and "What do we want to change?" Students worked in small groups to write lists of their ideas and decide on key priorities for school development. When the feedback was collated it was very clear that students recognise great strengths of the school in the staff, the quality of the learning and in lessons. Other favourites are the diverse community, the canteen and food, the respect shown to each other and the wide range of extra-curricular activities. The main priority for improvement, identified by almost three quarters of the groups, is the condition of the student washroom facilities. Students also feel that changing rooms and some classrooms are in need of refreshment. The second priority coming from students for change is the school uniform, which many students feel is not sufficiently smart or grown up. Other ideas for improvement are wide ranging and include more trips, the introduction of an astro-turf pitch and lockers, particularly for younger students. We will be working hard to improve our school in the light of the students' discussions. If you would like to contribute your views on any of their ideas or add other thoughts for consideration, then please email me on info@hendonschool.co.uk. I would be pleased to hear from you. I will, of course keep you updated on our progress as we tackle each area for improvement.



Rhona Povey - Headteacher

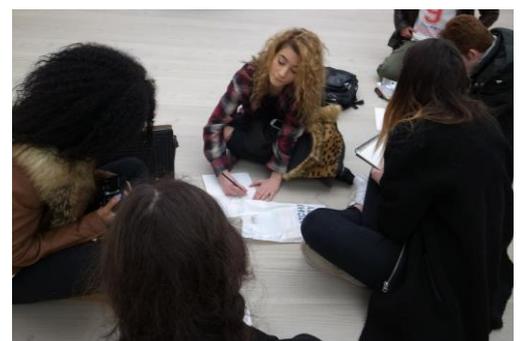
Year 11 GCSE Art Trip to Saatchi Gallery & Tate Britain Gallery



On Tuesday 10th February 2015, both Year 11 GCSE art classes attended a trip to the Saatchi Gallery and the Tate Britain gallery. The first gallery that was seen was the Saatchi Gallery. The exhibition featured 250 works by 110 artists from China, the former Soviet Union, Taiwan, the UK and USA in a comprehensive survey celebrating Pop Art's legacy. Post Pop: East Meets West examines why of all the twentieth century's art movements, Pop Art has had such a powerful influence over artists from world regions that have had very different and sometimes opposing ideologies. Some work was controversial but it gave us a lot of room for discussion. I liked the fact that the art expressed ideas in a truthful and relevant way.



At Tate Britain we saw works by British artists dating back 500 years. The artworks varied from contemporary fabric collages to detailed oil paintings depicting Elizabeth I. I like the way that history links with art history and that artworks represent people and the societies they have lived in. We got a lot of inspiration for our new Exam themes and I am looking forward to finding out more detailed information about my favourite artist's work.



Mia Salem - Year 11 Art GCSE student

Konan High School Exchange

We are really looking forward the arrival of our 20 Japanese Exchange students next Thursday (5th March). They will be staying with families of Hendon School students and will be involved in a huge array of exciting activities. They will be attending English lessons with Mr Maas, they will be doing music with Mr Tompkins, dancing with Ms Choolun, doing Shakespeare with Mr Ashley-Smith and trampolining with our PE team. They will also be cooking with Ms Gavartin and creating artwork with Mr Keller.

On top of this they will spend the day at Colindale Primary School teaching Japanese and getting involved in lots of cultural events. They will also be heading in to London with Mr Hall to sample some of the sights and sounds of central London. This is a fantastic opportunity for students across the school to get themselves involved and to speak some Japanese.

Ms Langsam - Organiser of Japanese Trip and Japanese Exchange

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a week living with their exchange partners, speaking Spanish, eating Spanish food and learning all about school life in Spain.

What a week! We have just returned from a wonderful seven days in Madrid on the Spanish exchange! This is the second year of our fantastic partnership with Santa Teresa de Jesús School in the heart of Madrid. Fourteen pupils from Hendon from Year 10 and 12 spent



On our first day we spent time in Madrid relishing some of Madrid's cultural gems. We had a tour of one of the oldest bullrings in Spain and learnt all about the history of bullfighting. We then visited one of Madrid's most famous art museums, the Reina Sofía, where pupils saw Picasso's Guernica. Our pupils were so excited to see the painting as they had studied it in great detail in Art

lessons at Hendon - they were mesmerised and fascinated to learn about the Civil war history which inspired the painting.



It was then off to spend quality time with Spanish host families for the weekend and to get to know Madrid even better. Our Spanish hosts were so generous. One of the parents arranged for all the pupils to go to see a Spanish musical which was a great hit and our pupils are still singing the songs now! We even managed to meet the actors at the end of the performance and get a few photos together.



Monday morning and time to get a real feel for school life in Spain. Our pupils shadowed their exchange partners in their Spanish lessons and were astonished to see classrooms with blackboards, chalk and no canteen! It was a fascinating experience. Almudena, our Spanish school coordinator, organised a series of special



lessons for Hendon pupils. We sampled lessons in arts and crafts and made our own notebooks. We learnt how to dance a Cuban salsa which was great fun. We had a lesson in making jewellery and key rings from plastic bottles, we learnt about programming robots and built armour for them to compete against each other! We ended the day with a creative writing lesson, and all of this in Spanish!



It was a deeply enriching experience for all our pupils. The Spanish school and the host families greeted us with such warmth and generosity. Leaving for the airport was a sad moment and the tears as they said goodbye were proof of the strength of

friendships made. Thankfully, everyone will be reunited in a few weeks' time when the pupils from Santa Teresa de Jesús come to Hendon on the 18th March for the second part of the exchange. We can't wait ¡Olé!



Mrs Loewe - Head of Spanish

Rebecca Pedersen Tries Out Life As A Cambridge Undergraduate

Rebecca Pedersen has been trying out life as a Cambridge undergraduate, as one of 420 participants in the 2015 Cambridge University Students' Union (CUSU) Shadowing Scheme.

Organised annually by CUSU, the scheme aims to give bright young people from non-university backgrounds the opportunity to experience life at a top university.

At Cambridge she teamed up with a student studying geography from Downing College, attending lectures, supervisions, and social events, for a taste of what undergraduate life at the University is really like.

Rebecca, who is interested in studying geography at university, said that her experience as a shadow really changed her thoughts about Cambridge. "At Cambridge I learnt so much about what it was like to be a university student and to attend lectures such as oceanography and volcanology. I had a great time with the Cambridge frisbee team and even got to eat at a formal dinner. I had an amazing experience and thoroughly enjoyed meeting all the people there."

The Shadowing Scheme gives bright students from state schools the chance to experience university life, and really helps to break down the myths surrounding Cambridge. Helena Blair, Access Officer for CUSU and one of the organisers of this year's scheme, explains:

"There's no better insight into being at University than shadowing a student for a few days during term-time, and we hope the experience students like Rebecca get from the Shadowing Scheme will help them to make an informed choice about their options post-sixth-form."

Mr Berry Head of Geography



Together We Can Keep Hendon School Tidy



I am always on the lookout for ideas to improve the ways we deal with the litter problems around the school.

One day I noticed a flyer at school looking for students to join a poster club and to see John Harris our friendly librarian.

This I did, John told me that a Year 7 student called Dena had started up the club with 2 other classmates Jasmine and Tanya. The girls agreed to create posters for the litter campaign. The result was amazing; the quality of their work was perfect. I now have a collection of posters to display around the school.

Just before Christmas, I met with our local Tesco manager, Harvey White who gave me some fab prizes for any students who came up with something special.

So to finalise, the students will be given their prizes at a future assembly and as I have said many times we are all in this together!

Let's keep Hendon school tidy

JJ Dunne - Caretaker and Eco-Warrior

Help save the animals ...



By picking up litter

Hendon School is visited each morning by its own Heron, the inspiration for one of our posters

Year 12 trip to North London Higher Education Fair - Friday 6th March

On Friday 6th March all Year 12 students will visit the North London Higher Education Fair at Middlesex University. It is an opportunity to meet representatives from over 60 universities and attend subject talks to gain an insight into what university life is really like.

Students will leave school at 9.45am and return at approximately 12.30pm. They will be accompanied by Hendon School staff.

During the visit the students will have the opportunity to:-

Create their own animation film; Take a campus and facilities tours; Get careers advice (words removed); Attend a robotics demonstration; Take part in sporting activities; Undertake biomedical tests and Conduct psychological experiments.

Students have an opportunity to attend subject talks in:-

Accounting and Finance, Computer Science, Maths, Sports and Exercise Science, Art and Design, Criminology and Sociology, Music, Television Production and Film, Biomedical and Healthcare Science, Journalism, Nursing, Teaching, Business Management, Law, Psychology and Marketing.

Investing in Our Futures

Thank you to the parents who have already volunteered. We are still looking for speakers to attend the evening on Tuesday 10th March from 6-8pm. It is a fantastic opportunity for our Year 11, 12 and 13 students to meet with professionals from the areas that they are interested in, in a relaxed atmosphere. We are particularly keen for people with a finance or science background to come and speak to the students. However, our student's interests are extremely varied and we welcome all volunteers.

Careers advice and option choices

Currently Year 9 and 11 students are considering their next stage of education. Students in Year 11 are supported by careers interviews and all students can make use of the lunchtime drop in sessions with Mr Mustafa, our IAG (careers advisor) every Wednesday and Friday lunchtime in his office next to A10. Parents can email questions to Mr Mustafa on MustafaC@hendonschool.co.uk.

There are also a number of websites that students can access to gain information:-

Year 9 students are encouraged to use Fast Tomato: www.fasttomato.com. Most students will have been shown how to use this site in their REACH lessons. It contains psychometric testing, career profiles and videos.

When students log in for the first time, please follow these instructions:-

1. Click on **register without a code**.
2. Accessing from an organisation - click on **Yes**.
3. Type in **Hendon School**.
4. Fill in their log-in details (**students must make a note of their password, as there is no way of retrieving these if they forget them**).

Year 11 students can also use Fast Tomato, but it is also recommended that they use National Careers Service, UCAS progress and the National Apprenticeship service.

www.nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk is the Government funded careers website, it provides careers advice and information on a wide range of jobs, training course resources and funding. There are over 800 career profiles, students (and adults) can phone or email for impartial careers advice from a qualified careers advisor.

For the majority of Year 11 students they will stay at Hendon School, but this is not always the most appropriate decision particularly when we are unable to offer some of the courses they want to study.

UCAS progress www.ucasprogress.com/search. UCAS is traditionally associated with university applications but provides a complete guide to post-16 education in local schools and colleges.

For those considering apprenticeships www.apprenticeships.gov.uk is the Government funded website where a large number of apprenticeships are advertised.

National Citizen Service - The Challenge Summer 2015



National Citizen Service (NCS) is a once-in-a life time opportunity for year 11 & 12 students. All students have now had an assembly about what NCS involves and past Hendon graduates have spoken about how much they enjoyed the experience.

The programme is recognised by UCAS and can strengthen college, university and job applications. 9 out of 10 participants believe National Citizen Service (NCS) has given them the chance to develop skills that will be useful in the future. You may have seen the television adverts for NCS.

The programme offers a unique opportunity for young people to work with a number of national, local and professional partner organisations. A number of our students have since gained part-time and gap year employment as graduates of the programme.

The cost for Yr11 students is £50, for Yr12 £35 (as the early bird discount still applies). There is financial assistance available to anyone who is unable to pay the full amount. There is also a full range of assistance for students with medical needs or disabilities.

For more information about the programme and to sign up visit www.ncsthechallenge.org Or contact: Holly Dowling, your local NCS Team Leader, at holly.dowling@the-challenge.org or on 07880 038 089 or Miss Doona, DoonaN@hendonschool.co.uk



EVERY CHILD A READER AT HENDON SCHOOL A Presentation for Parents



On the 28th and 29th January, Year 7 parents were invited to a supportive parental presentation on promoting reading. The presentation provided an opportunity to talk to parents about the importance of developing reading habits for enjoyment and offered parents to trial a digitalised Accelerated Reader programme. Although only 15% of Year 7 parents attended the session, it provided an opportunity for both school and parents to discuss ideas of encouraging children on how to develop reading for pleasure.

Parents were impressed with the information regarding the digitalised Accelerated Reader programme, which allows parents to monitor their child's reading ability from the comfort of their own home. The programme digitally assesses a child's reading competence and recommends books appropriate to their reading ability. Most of all, once a child has read a book they can immediately take a digitalised quiz on the book. This provides readers instant gratification, motivation and information on how well they have understood the book they have read.

The school has offered to trial the Accelerated Reader programme in September with its home connect facility for parents who attended the presentation. The future continuity of the programme will depend on positive parental feedback and individual parental subscriptions. All parents who attended the presentation also received a literacy booklet, with a recommend booklist appropriately personalised for their child.

Mrs Sen - Literacy Coordinator