

Marianne (centre) from year 9 was among the students who took part in the awards



Proud of our Duke duties

A REMARKABLE 150 students have been working hard to complete their Duke of Edinburgh's Award this term.

As part of the award, participants must complete some volunteering, skill and physical activities.

This includes helping out at primary schools, charity shops and homeless shelters.

Teacher Mr James said: "This year we have the most diverse range of activities being completed, from crocheting to cooking and skateboarding to swimming.

"I am really impressed and proud of our students who have been working really hard and learning new skills, or improving old ones."

Getting back to BUSINESS

UNDERGRADUATES at one of the top business schools in the country have been mentoring our sixth form students.

The eight-week scheme will see our students get tips on applications, personal statements and interview preparation from youngsters at the Bayes Business School at City University.

The one-to-one guidance sessions are part of wider plans to roll out the programme to students studying sociology and other subjects.

Year 13 student Ademola said: "I've really enjoyed the experience. My mentor is great. They are not so different in age to us so they know what it is like to be in our situation.

"I feel I am benefiting enormously from these sessions and I look forward to them each week. I am hoping it will boost my chance of getting into a good university.

Assistant headteacher Mr McArdle said: "This is a truly unique scheme, which will provide guidance on what university life is like and how to navigate the future."



Students have received help from those on courses at Bayes Business School



‘Committed to the students at this school’

Head teacher Mrs Emmerson (above) on what this term has offered.

I spend a lot of time walking our corridors – from classroom to classroom, lesson to lesson – checking that the high standards we have set for ourselves are consistent in all areas.

I hear Shakespearean couplets straining from our drama rooms, the unmistakable sound of a young person learning to play an instrument and much more besides.

It is in those moments that I realise how fortunate I am to work in a school that has such a strong emphasis on the arts and on providing as many opportunities for students as possible.

Like our families, the teachers and support staff are, in my view, uniquely committed to the students at this school.

Nowhere is that better showcased than in the stories you will read in this newsletter.

Behind every trip to the West End, every author visit, every sporting fixture, every project, programme, workshop, there is a teacher.

A teacher who worked through their lunchtime, after or before school during the weekends or holidays to make it happen so that our students benefit from those crucial experiences that lie beyond the classroom and shape the lives and futures of our young people. There will be a whole set of new instruments in our music department because our staff took the time to apply for a new grant.

Our students will have a better understanding of the real world context around the subjects they



ON THE MOVE: Students in years 7, 8 and 9 have had the opportunity to work with professional dancers from Skadeuces School for Arts this term in their PE lessons.

Really showing some character

OUR year 9 students got a boost to their future career prospects after talking to a range of professionals on Character Day.

They had the chance to learn from industry experts at a networking event held at the school this term.

Animators, film set designers, lawyers, artists and engineers took the time to explain their roles and career paths to students.

Year 9 student Rim said: “It made me think what GCSEs I would need for my future job. The professional made the job sounds really interesting

so it was really inspiring.”

Student Billy said: “The careers fair was good because it made me think about what I would want to do in the future. It is still very early for me but good to think about.”

Taho said: “I enjoyed talking to professionals and to see what they did. I also learned new things and paths that are open for me going forward.”

Teacher Mr Wadsworth said: “The students’ feedback was extremely positive. It was clear they enjoyed the event and following discussions with them, they all had positive takeaways.”



Leon Lynch returned to his home town to talk to our students

Barrister lays down the law

BARRISTER Leon Lynch shared stories and anecdotes from his career in the legal profession.

The London Fields native returned to his home town to discuss race and stereotyping

during a talk with all students across the school over a series of assemblies.

Students also got the chance to quiz the legal eagle during the visit, linked to black excellence, part of the Haggerston Black History Season.

study because our teachers took the time to organise a trip to the West End, an overnight geography residential or trip to a professional sporting fixture.

I am always proud of our students but, this term, I'd like to focus on my

pride in our staff. I feel lucky to count myself among them.

Finally, I say thank you once again for your continued support.

Have a happy and hopefully restful Easter. We will see you next term.

Coastal capers for geography fieldwork

GCSE geography students spent an exciting weekend in Norfolk staying in the Tudor-era Overstrand Hall.

A total of 84 year 10 students made the trip east to complete primary fieldwork on the beach, including

measuring longshore drift tests.

It allowed them to finish their geography fieldwork, evaluating the effectiveness of Sheringham's coastal defences.

Teacher Ms Clarke said: "It was

such a wonderful trip. It was so great for students to get out and see the countryside away from the hustle and bustle of London. The students really enjoyed the experience and we look forward to going back again next year."



Exploring life after school

STUDENTS in year 12 had the chance to learn about life at the top universities in the country at a fair hosted at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium.

It allowed them to look at different options after they turn 18, such as apprenticeships, T Levels and university courses.

There were also talks and seminars with advice on UCAS personal statements, applications and

student finance.

Head of sixth form Ms Clarke said: "This event was fantastic and it was clear that all students took a lot from attending. This is the start of students now thinking about what they can do after year 13.

"It is a huge step they are going to be taking in the next few years so it is important they are armed with all the right information."



Ms Clarke, Roly Keating and Ms Samy, librarian and LRC manager

Inspirational guests speak

CEO of The British Library Sir Roly Keating and journalist Sophia Smith Galer were among a range of guests who spoke to students in the sixth form this term.

They got an insight into career and education pathways as well as challenges faced on the path to success.

Head of sixth form Ms Clarke said: "It has been a great term hearing from really inspirational people, widening our students' aspirations for their next steps."

The students also heard about the civil service in a meeting with Angela Whelan, who just received an MBE for her services to education.

Taking pride in the new flag

OUR Youth Pride Network marked LGBT+ History Month by running an assembly.

Students addressed their peers on the struggle of the community, educating fellow students on the historic figures in the movement.

They have also updated the flag to be more inclusive and

representative of the community.



Inspired by artist Daniel Quasar, they added black and brown stripes to the pride flag to recognise people of colour.

It is now known as the progress pride flag and also has light blue, pink and white stripes to represent trans and non-binary people.

‘Students have a strong sense of what they want’

YEAR 10 students attended a post-16 careers fair held at Here East innovation and technology campus.

The event allowed students to consider what options they could explore after GCSEs and were offered support to make decisions.

Students learned about schools, colleges, T Levels and apprenticeships that are on offer within the borough. They were also able to engage with representatives from universities.

Teacher Ms Forbes, who attended the fair, said: “It was great to see so many students across the borough attend this event and engage with the excellent choices available to them post-16.

“There was lots of resources on offer to students, which will help them making decisions about their futures.”

Teacher Mr Hussein said: “Our students really enjoyed the day and some students have a strong sense of what they now want to do which is great.”



The Here East event helped students understand their post-school options



The students raised £1,000 for charity Rise 365

Fabulous fundraisers make a grand statement

OUR students earned £1,000 for a local youth charity as part of a social action project.

They fundraised by running bake sales and created awareness with a poster campaign

for Rise 365, a charity that aims to empower young people, for the First Give competition.

They wrote to Hackney MP Diane Abbott, who tweeted in support of their campaign.

The winning group, Eight Purple, impressed competition judges with their heartfelt presentation in support of the charity.

STREET ART: Year 9 students learned about street art at the Beyond the Streets London exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery. They also took part in a workshop led by an artist in residence and learned about creative industries during the guided tour.



Heart-breaking survival story

STUDENTS got the chance to hear from the daughter of a concentration camp survivor as the school marked Holocaust Memorial Day.

Hephzibah Rudofsky detailed her mother and grandmothers' experiences at Bergen-Belsen during the Second World War when giving a talk to students in January.

She brought a suitcase full of objects and belongings that belonged to her mother and grandmother including the Stars of David that had been worn on their clothing.

Students were invited to the talk following excellent work in their religious

education and history class.

"They heard the heart-breaking and inspirational story of Hephzibah's mother who lived in the ghettos and concentration camps of occupied Europe during the second world war," one teacher said.

The visit was organised by the humanities faculty as part of Haggerston School's ongoing dedication to providing our students with the highest possible standard of Holocaust education.

Year 10 students also represented the school at Hackney Town Hall for Holocaust Memorial Day.



'Be resilient; never give up'

A businesswoman who founded one of the original tech companies told students a traumatic injury helped to shape her as leader and a person.

Baroness Martha Lane Fox (*above*), who founded travel company Last Minute, spent over a year in hospital after a car accident in Morocco.

Talking to sixth formers, she also reflected on her life and career including working for the Queen in the Commonwealth Trust.

Year 12 student Stella said: "She was professional but also light-hearted at times, creating a calmer and friendlier environment for us."

Year 9 student Grace said: "Her constant bravery has taught us to always be resilient and never give up."

Year 9 student Maggie added: "We learned not to let others take our power and mask our voices. It is about facing challenges as women."



Students were invited to listen to Hephzibah Rudofsky, the daughter of a Holocaust survivor

Innovation is a key to success

STUDENTS have been preparing for their GCSE exams this term.

The year 11 textile design class have been busily preparing themselves for their final exam in April.

They have been exploring different themes and techniques ahead of creating a final piece for their exam.

For GCSE design and technology, they have been working hard to complete their non-examination assessment (NEA).

The Eduqas exam board set the following topics to help to stimulate creative responses: travel; aesthetics; and rapid changes in society.

Teacher Mr Nayar said: "Our students have responded to these contexts in a range of

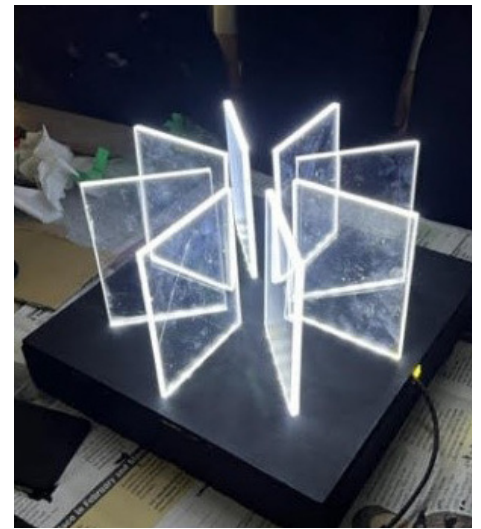
highly original and innovative ways.

"There will be a chance to see this work at summer sharing, which I would encourage anyone who can get along to do so."

Student Marcie said: "I was concerned about the rapid increase of social media dependence in young children and have designed a product to get them off their screens.

Meanwhile, Ayman designed a product to prevent young children getting bored in airport queues while Milton has designed a jewellery table inspired by a piece of iconic architecture.

GCSE food preparation and nutrition students have been researching, planning, preparing, cooking and evaluating locally sourced cafe food.



A student's work lights the room

Ms Goodridge reserved praise for student Poppy. She said: "Big shout out to Poppy on her creative and beautifully presented take on this context."

Students get lessons in leadership

OUR Future Leaders are learning the skills to become good mentors to their younger peers.

They are being trained for the Professional Friend programme, which will see sixth formers paired with a student in a younger year group.

The Future Leaders, identifiable by their black and gold lanyards, become role models for their mentees, helping them with learning and academic challenges.

Teacher Mr Rowe said: "This is a supportive mentoring opportunity that benefits those selected and those they are supporting.

"It provides opportunities for sixth formers to take on leadership roles around the school that expand their skill sets in preparation for life beyond it."



The ambassadors aim to encourage other students to get reading

Remembering the horrors of civil wartime

STUDENTS Georgia, Zoynal and Chandni were asked to tell the story of a survivor of the Bosnian genocide: Nedžad Avdić.

In July 1995, against the backdrop of an ongoing civil war in Bosnia, Serbian forces led by Ratko Mladic murdered about 8,000 Muslim men and boys in Srebrenica.

To mark the occasion, students from schools across Hackney took part in a ceremony outside the town hall.

Book-reading chapter launched

STUDENTS attended the launch of a new programme to encourage young people to get reading.

They will become ambassadors in the school library recommending books for their peers and signposting resources for the Hackney Reading Ambassadors programme.

They will also have their favourite books displayed around the library and school to encourage others to try.

Students Niya, Oliwia, Evelyn and Sadhbh attended the launch held at Homerton Library.

Librarian and LRC manager Ms Samy said:

"Our students participated enthusiastically and were very confident.

"Their love for reading and their knowledge on different genres of books was appreciated by everyone in the room.

"From school-wide polls, through playground reading pods and one colourful display idea after the other, there was no shortage of brilliant suggestions.

"There was a lively discussion, recommending a stunning variety of authors and titles, truly showcasing the individual tastes and interests of each young person."

Students gather
outside the Lyric
theatre

Creating some dramatic tension

OUR drama students have spent the term taking their learning beyond the classroom by watching the top shows in the capital.

Year 11 students watched the innovative theatre company Frantic Assembly's adaptation of Shakespeare's *Othello* at the Lyric Hammersmith.

The company's work, which has been shown in more than 40 countries, is characterised by non-realistic interpretations of classic plays, including the award-winning *The Curious Case of the Dog in the Night*

Time. It forms a large part of the study of drama at A-level.

Ms Powell, head of the creative arts faculty, said: "Frantic brought the play into the 21st century, setting it in a grimy pub and using its characteristic physical storytelling. It was a powerful and relevant interpretation exploring race, gender and the power of misinformation."

Students also performed their scripted pieces exploring mental health, race, social media and relationships for their exams.



LIFE LESSONS: Our students got tips from the experts Royal Drawing School during a workshop.

They were given weekly life drawing lessons by expert tutors, learning

techniques such as observation drawing.

Ms Peryer, head of art, said: "This programme is the perfect foundation for any young artist hoping to take their creative skills to the next level."

Department scoops huge £20k fund for instruments

THE school music department has secured a significant funding boost of £20,000 from London based charity Restore the Music.

The money will be used to buy brass and woodwind instruments, such as trumpets and trombones, which are due to arrive in September.

The charity provides funding for musical instruments and education to children in state primary and secondary schools across London.

Mr Gregory, head of music, said: "This is a positive development for Haggerston School and it underscores the value of investing in music education.

"We eagerly anticipate the benefits that this funding will bring to the school's music programme and we wish the music department continued success in the future."



Ms Taylor Scott and Ms Siddiqui with their message for IWD

A day to feel empowered

The under-appreciated achievements of women were the focus of this year's International Women's Day at Haggerston.

Year 12 student Miu said: "We will help forge women's equality by making sure all my female friends feel empowered."

What's cooking in the kitchen?

OUR students will get the chance to learn from professionals after being offered the chance to work in a commercial kitchen.

They will help produce meals after taking part in a junior chef's course at Shoreditch Trust this term.

Every Friday, they will learn kitchen craft from trained professionals, and get the chance to prepare a main and a dessert, which they can eat or take home.



Team seeks a perfect season

SPORTY students have been representing the school with maturity and skills this term.

More than 270 students attended clubs with a large majority going on to represent the school in a competitive fixture.

The lunchtime badminton, table tennis and basketball clubs continue to be

well attended.

Notably, the year 7 boys football team (*above*) have so far had the perfect season and are so far unbeaten.

There are also plans to introduce a host of new sports clubs – including cricket, rounders and athletics – next term.

Clubs dispense new knowledge

THERE has been lots happening this term in our school clubs with students pursuing their interests in a wide range of different extracurricular activities.

In cooking club, Mrs Clarke and students have been cooking up a storm in the kitchen, making delicious and tempting treats.

She said: "Cooking is absolutely a lifelong skill and those students in our cooking club are really having a great time learning.

"They love cooking. It's great to see our

students enjoying learning new preparation skills and the sensory experience of cooking."

Meanwhile, Mr Nayar continues to trick students into learning about mechanisms on Tuesdays by getting them to design and make a sweet dispenser in design technology club.

He said: "Like most people, whether children and adults, our club attendees love sweets, so there is no better way than to get them to learn than designing a sweet dispenser."



MAGICAL OUTING: Year 10 GCSE drama students had the opportunity to see *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. They loved the play and learned lots about theatre production.



SEEKING ADVANTAGE: A group of students from year 7 and year 10 took part in free tennis lessons with Advantage Tennis charity. They completed seven weeks of lessons and received a free tennis racket after completing the course.