

## Inspirational icons

**Future Leaders focus on two modern-day figures for Black History Month assembly.**

OUR Future Leaders gave a talk on a pair of inspirational icons as part of the Black History Month celebrations.

Fashion designer, Ozwald Boateng, and footballer and food campaigner, Marcus Rashford, were the subject of the assembly address.

Boateng was chosen for work in the fashion industry, while Marcus Rashford became a national hero for campaigning on behalf of youngsters for free school meals during lockdowns.

Our Year 13 Future Leader students performed the talks to Year 10 and Year 11 classes to showcase inspirational figures from the black community and to highlight how much they have achieved.

Jass said: "The Year 10 students seemed very mature and engaged with the talk and wanted to learn more about these inspirational figures.



**Our Future Leaders inspired young minds with their Black History Month address.**

"Our teachers really encouraged us. They helped give us the confidence to speak in front of a large audience."

Jake said: "We wanted to focus on modern black icons, so that the audience would know who they were and it would be relevant to their

lives today."

In addition, to celebrate Black History Month we put up a display of Black heroes, played music from black artists, put together an array of books, as well as enjoying Caribbean food in the canteen.



**Students learned a lot on Character Day.**

## TOP TIPS ON CHARACTER DAY

STUDENTS learned practical life lessons on how to deal with bullies and get better sleep during Character Day.

The vital lessons were taught during a series of insightful sessions.

Year 7, Manveer, said: "I learned about hormones and genes as well as tips on spotting and dealing with bullies.

"We also learned that if we encounter bullying, we need to tell a teacher, or parent, immediately.

"Also, we should never be scared, or hide, and should seek out people to share activities we find fun."

Year 8, Charlie, said: "We learned that we should limit what we eat and drink right before we go to sleep so it doesn't disturb us.

"We also learned how we should put away our phones before we go to bed and how to maintain a healthy sleep pattern."



## IDEAS TO TACO-WAY

A TASE of Mexico came to Haggerston, this November, with students learning recipes in a cookery class taught entirely in Spanish.

Chef, Karla Zazueta (pictured), gave Sixth Form and Year 11 students a masterclass in how to create delicious tacos alongside dishes, pico de gallo and frijoles refritos.

Chef Zazueta praised the talented cohort and was impressed by both their culinary and language skills.

She said: "They were really lovely students and the food they prepared was better than most of the adult learners who I teach in English. Really well done to all."

# Asha's Olympic story is a real winner

AN ENGLISH athlete captivated a Year 11 audience with her story of overcoming adversity to become an Olympic medallist.

Asha Philip spoke at the assembly about how hard she pushed herself to the point where she tore all the ligaments in her legs.

Following a serious knee injury from gymnastics, she was sidelined for a number of years and thought her career was over.

However, she pushed herself and became an Olympic bronze medallist at the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro.

Year 11, Shaynah, said: "It was such a great lesson. Even if you think things are going bad for you, you can always come back. It is a great way to think about your life."

**It was such a great lesson. Even if you think things are going bad for you, you can always come back...**

**Shaynah, Year 11**

"She thought her career was over but then she went on to accomplish so much. It really had a big impact on me because I could really relate to her,"

Year 11, Taya, said: "Asha said that, after



she was injured, she was sitting in her house thinking her life was over but she was able to pull through and persevere."

"It was particularly inspiring to hear

from such a talented and successful black woman.

"It really showed that if she could do it, then we could do it too."

## FOCUS ON ROAD SAFETY RESPONSIBILITY

A HARD-HITTING play exploring road safety was performed to Year 7 students in November.

'Deadly Distraction' was created by top educational theatre company, The Riot Act.

It shows how everyday actions, such as using phones and listening to music, can lead to life-threatening accidents on the road.

Commissioned by the Hackney Road Safety Team, the performance also discussed themes of identifying and coping with peer pressure and explored the importance of personal responsibility and behaviour.

Students got the chance to quiz performers afterwards at a Q&A session.





## UNITED SILENCE SAYS IT ALL

YOU could have heard a pin drop as our students marked Remembrance Day with a keenly observed two minutes silence.

A hush descended over the school as students took the time to pay their respects to our fallen military heroes.

In the library, staff selected thought-provoking books to get students thinking about Remembrance Day.

During the Remembrance Day assembly, students Emmanuel and Eva (pictured) read the poem 'In Flanders Fields' to Year 8.

Headteacher, Mrs Emmerson, said: "I was moved at how mature our students were when paying their respects. We want our students to understand how important Remembrance Day is."

AN INNOVATIVE learning programme, designed to promote reading and improve literary skills, has proved a hit with students.

Haggerston's Accelerated Reader (AR) scheme is available to Year 7 and 8 students and takes place during their library lessons.

The students select a book before testing their knowledge with a fun online quiz.

The aim is to promote reading for pleasure and encourage the students to keep reading and quizzing to improve their skills.

Star reader, Poppy, has read one million words and is the first student to win the AR Word Millionaire award. The Year 7 student has 100 per cent results in all the quizzes and is the most prolific reader of the group.

Poppy said: "AR quizzes are very easy and entertaining to fill out. As you click on each answer, you really get a sense of how much information you have taken in.

"I enjoy reading because, when you're reading, it's almost like within those pages lies a whole different reality you can access with a flip of a page.

"I am happy to be the first AR world millionaire. I really didn't expect it, but it makes me very proud. Thanks to my teachers."

Other Year 7 and 8 champions are Winston, Nathan, Toqzhan, Marianne, Dora, Nancy and Emmanuel.

Librarian, Ms Ruby Samy, said "The champions have one thing in common; they all come into the library regularly and are reading at home and taking quizzes.

"There is a real enthusiasm about the students this year. We are looking forward to seeing many students joining the AR Word Millionaire club."

STAFF and students created a short film documenting their experiences of teaching and learning at home during the school closures. The film, which is now available to see on our social media pages, captures a specific moment in history.

The Haggerston School String Band has been rehearsing every Wednesday lunchtime all term. Starting as a ukulele group, they have expanded to include clarinet, and a rhythm section of drums and bass guitar.

## New chapter for reading initiative



GROWING-UP in Hackney and racial equality were the inspirations for our Year 7 poets. They wrote passionately about their experiences as part of a national poetry competition. It was aimed at helping young people express themselves and become confident poets.

## CODING CLASS PROVES POPULAR

STUDENTS gained an insight into the world of coding and programming by building games and quizzes.

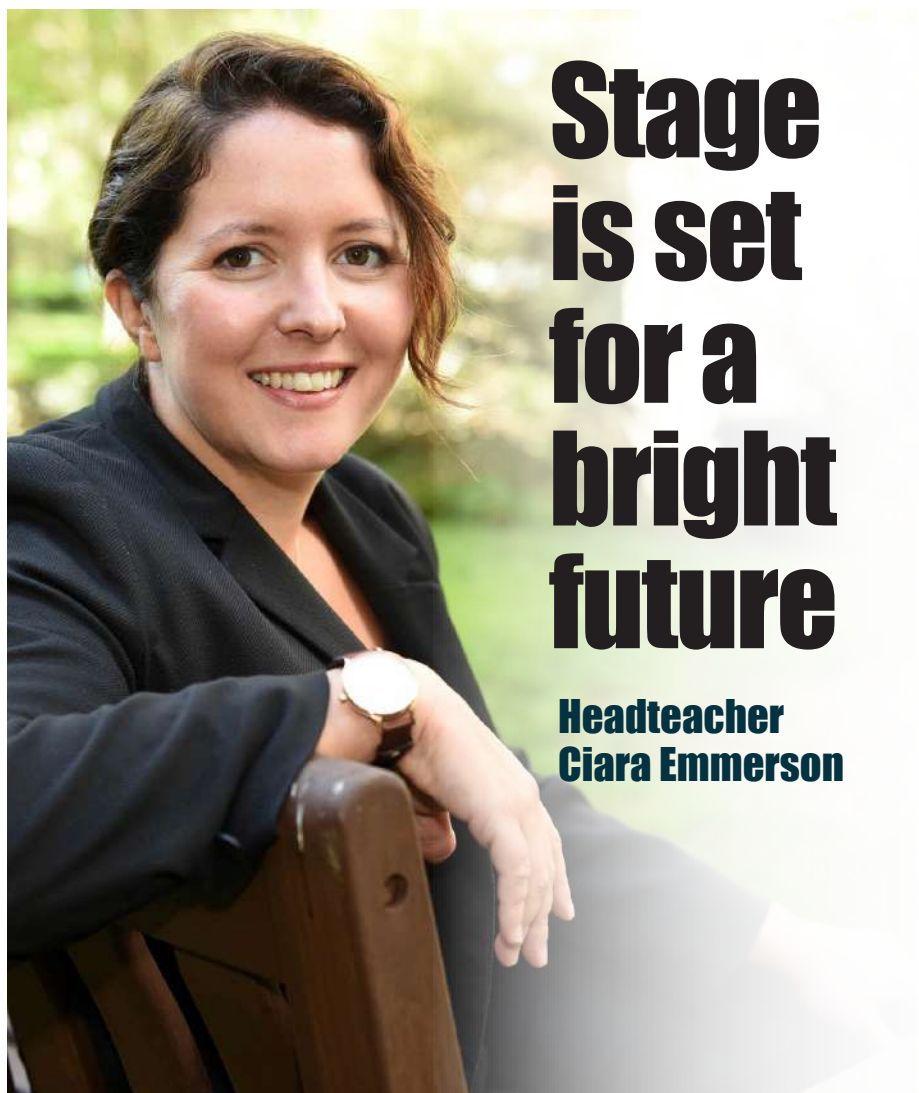
The Year 7 class worked with different coding languages such as Scratch and used Microbits to investigate the effects of programming on hardware.

They also used Python which is a

text-based programme used to create quizzes.

Year 7 student Ewen said "I have loved creating my own programmes. It has been very insightful.

"I look forward to the lesson every week and it's now my highlight of the week. This really will be a big help for my future."



# Stage is set for a bright future

**Headteacher  
Ciara Emmerson**

THERE are many wonderful things about being the Headteacher of a school, and a fair few challenges, too.

You have to believe in the truly transformational impact of education, and commit to that belief, every day.

Nowhere was this clearer to me, than watching the school production recently. The authenticity of the students' performances, the beauty of the music they had composed and the dance choreography, as well as the powerful set design.

All of it was a testimony to the commitment of the students and the Creative Arts team here.

The ambitious standard they achieve year in, year out comes from hours and hours of dedicated rehearsal time.

Lots of time is spent devising and creating art together, and then perfecting it, so that the audience is affected and moved.

It is something that is very special about Haggerston and made all the more so because we weren't able to do it last year. We feel so happy to have been able to give this back to students this year.

At a time of year when we count our blessings, I give thanks for our staff and students. They are best of the best.

Finally I'd like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. I hope you have a well deserved break. We look forward to seeing you next year.

AFTER a two-year wait, Haggerston drama students returned to the stage with the show, 'A Monster Calls'.

The cast of Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 drama students have worked hard in rehearsals since September to bring to life Patrick Ness' novel.

The play tells the story of twelve-year-old, Conor, whose encounter with an ancient tree monster, helps him cope with his mother's terminal illness and being bullied at school.

They performed to a sell-out audience of primary schools, staff, students, and their families and were accompanied by Year 10 music students (pictured, right) who composed their own musical score.

The music featured a wide variety of acoustic instruments, including electric guitars and electronic synthesisers.

Incorporating elements of punk-rock, synthwave and 80s electropop, the music complements the play's dark and brooding storyline.

Well-done to Mia, Maria, Betty, Esad, Freddy and Arthur.

Head of Creative Arts, Ms Powell said: "The students performed with confidence, skill and sensitivity.

"We are proud of them, and we hope you enjoyed the performance."

## STUDENTS' SHOW WAS WELL WORTH WAITING FOR





# STOKING-UP A PASSION FOR ADVENTURE

INTREPID students have successfully completed an expedition through Epping Forest as part of their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award.

The Year 10 and 11 students took part in two trips in July and October, navigating their way from the drop-off point to the campsite at Gilwell Park, Chingford.

Staff and students kept warm round the campfire with an impromptu talent show and delicious toasted marshmallows.

Assistant Headteacher, Mr McArdle, said: "This year showed determination and skill throughout their expedition.

"Well done to all and a huge thank you to the staff who supported."

Meanwhile, biology students learned fieldwork skills as part of an exercise examining ecology at Greenwich Park.

The Sixth Form group learned how to interpret ecological data using a combination of graphical and mathematical skills. They then used their findings to draw conclusions about wildlife diversity and species numbers.

OUR girls' football team marked their return to competitive matches with a thrilling victory against Brampton Manor School. The nail-biting game ended 4-3 with a stunning hat-trick by star student, Harmony. Head of PE, Mr James, said: "The students were brilliant in their first game giving 100 per cent effort and deserved the win."

## AMBASSADORS MAKE PLEDGE

THE hard-working Headteacher's Ambassadors have pledged to improve school life for their peers after being selected for the current academic year.

They held their first meeting with Headteacher, Mrs Emmerson (pictured below), this term where they discussed the improvements made to the sports pitches.

Students were chosen for the role by staff. It is the most senior responsibility for a Year 11 student.

They can be recognised by the gold trim on their blazers and are always available to fellow students for chats about school life.





# Posing for project



## CREATION FOR SCHOOL PRODUCTION

ART CLUB members have created a stunning new artwork inspired by the school production of 'A Monster Calls.'

The story features 12-year-old, Conor, whose encounter with a tree monster helps him cope with family strife and school bullies.

In response, students created a piece of art known as 'The Boy at 12.07', which draws on the plays themes of fear and redemption.

Art teacher, Ms Lazarus, said: "Members of the Art Club have worked tirelessly to produce this large-scale artwork, from initial brainstorm, through to painting sessions, arranging the pieces, stitching it all together and finally deciding upon a title.

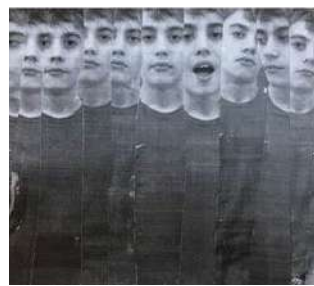
"This has been a collaboration from start to finish. Congratulations and well done to all Art Club members from Years 7 - 10."



**Jahari.  
Johnson Gideon Beharry.**  
By Emma Wesley, 2006.



**Eden.  
Paul McCartney.**  
By Clive Arrowsmith, 1976.



**Clay.  
The Scream.**  
By Edvard Munch, 1893.



**Sidney.  
King George V.**  
By Sir Oswald Birley, circa 1933.



A HOMEWORK project, in response to a post on the Instagram page of the National Gallery, inspired students to re-create iconic artworks.

During lockdown, the gallery posted a series of images on its feed showing staff superimposing their faces into the frames of renowned pieces.

Our students took on the challenge with gusto and created an array of brilliant images

using costumes and props.

Head of Art, Mrs Peryer, said: "Students were directed to the wonderful National Portrait Gallery collection online.

"They were asked to choose a portrait to recreate, and pose the portrait.

"The results are truly amazing. Full of humour, emotion, attention to detail and so fantastically creative and resourceful. They should be very proud of themselves."

## AWESOME ARTWORK



OUR talented art students showcased their exceptional creativity with a hugely successful exhibition.

The GCSE and A-level students explored a diverse range of

themes through their work, including world cultures, personal development and education.

The exhibition featured examples of preparatory studies, sketchbooks,

painting, drawing, printmaking, mixed-media and sculpture.

It was well attended by invited guests, students and teachers in November.





## TACKLING CLIMATE ISSUES

GREEN-MINDED students had their voices heard on climate change during a discussion with Mayor of Hackney, Philip Glanville.

The meeting took place ahead of the United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in October.

Year 7 and 8 students had the chance to quiz Hackney politicians on local and global climate issues.

The students raised concerns over transport and litter in the area, pushing the councillors into taking action at COP26.

## Touching tributes to our late teacher



The school hall has been renamed 'Ford Hall' after much-loved teacher, Kate Ford.

HAGGERSTON School Choir staged an emotional performance at the memorial service of much-loved teacher, Kate Ford.

They sang a moving rendition of the REM classic, 'Everybody Hurts' in honour of Kate who died in June, following 35 years at our school.

The group have been able to practise since lockdown restrictions were lifted and have also performed foyer music for our school

production, 'A Monster Calls.'

The choir sings anything from gospel, soul, rock and pop and meet Thursday lunchtimes.

The school was also proud to announce the renaming of the hall as 'The Ford Hall', in Kate's memory.

The unveiling was attended by colleagues, family and friends. She was an inspiring teacher who worked tirelessly for students and had a passion for literacy and education.

## STUDENTS HAVE THEIR EYES ON ENGINEERING

ENGINEERING students have been creating an intricate paper version of the London Eye.

The lightweight model is being built by Year 7 students to demonstrate how triangle pieces and pyramid shapes create robust structures.

The young engineers have been joining tightly-rolled paper tubes into triangles by hole punching the ends and using small nuts and bolts.

Head of Technology, Mr Nayar, said: "We have joined the tops of the pyramids together with a small structural paper tube.

"This small tube is a chord segment of a large circle's circumference. We have created a beautiful structure all out of standard A4 sheets of paper."



## NEWS IN BRIEF...

HAGGERSTON students will attend the Hackney SEND Youth Pupil Forum at the Museum of the Home in Hoxton.

The Year 8, 9 and 10 students will have the opportunity to change provision for those with additional needs in the borough.

They will take part in a tour of the museum and two creative workshops, aimed at collecting the views and feelings of young people in Hackney with SEND.

The students will be writing a report in the next edition of the Haggerston Recorder to share their experience.

OUR drama students returned to the West End when they visited the National Theatre to see production of the iconic play, 'East is East.'

Students relished the chance to see live theatre, as well as the chance to model techniques used by professional actors.

They also learned a range of devising techniques from a professional actor at a workshop with physical theatre, Frantic Assembly.

SIXTH FORM Economics students took part in a debate last month about whether Brexit had benefited the UK.

Students were assigned to either the Leave or Remain argument, and undertook independent research as part of their homework in preparation of the debate. The task required students to apply their knowledge of the benefits and drawbacks of trade blocs.

The debate was organised, and moderated, by Fatima, who also runs the Sixth Form Debate Club.

She said: "Some of the EU laws are interesting, such as the one that prevents bendy bananas. The EU also banned drinks manufacturers from claiming that water prevents dehydration".

Fellow student, Maher, added: "Although I favoured the 'Remain' argument, it made me realise why the 'Leave' vote was high."





CHARITY, Open Palm, and online banking company, Monzo, donated MacBooks and monitors to our Music and Design & Technology students.



STUDENTS have been enjoying learning how to make delicious smoothies in our kitchens.

# IN PICTURES



PROFESSOR Andreas Philippopoulos-Mihalopoulos talked to students this term. The Director of the Westminster Law & Theory Lab focused on the importance of justice.



THE school was delighted to welcome so many prospective students and their parents at a series of recent Open Evenings.



SIXTH Form students will learn leadership skills as they mentor younger pupils with their reading and writing after coming through a rigorous selection process.

The students were picked as Future Leaders after demonstrating the key skills needed to take up the role in their applications.

Other tasks include showing parents around the school.

They are given black and gold lanyards so that fellow students can recognise them and ask for help.