

Inter-Academy Newsletter

Issue 3: November 2008

Oasis
:community learning

Welcome to issue 3 of the inter-Academy newsletter.

As ever the month has been filled with events, activities and even awards! Do read on to find out more.

Best wishes,

Ruth

MediaCityUK

Early Entry GCSEs

There was 100% attendance for Year 11 students sitting early entry GCSEs in English Language and Maths.

Philosophy Trip

A group of Year 10 A Level Philosophy students had a two day trip to London. They visited the Central Mosque and the Oasis Church to take part in discussions about the cosmological argument with Christians and Muslims. Whilst having lunch in Trafalgar square they introduced themselves to a group of students from Oasis Academy Enfield who were also on a trip, who they recognised by their Oasis Academy uniform.

Sixth Form Open Evening

An Open Evening to promote the new sixth form was held. This was highly successful and received positive feedback.

Eco-Challenge Residential Trip

Thirty Year 9 students took part in a four day Eco-Challenge in Cumbria, funded by a local lottery fund. Activities included team building exercises, conservation projects, habitat exploration, bat and badger watching and raft building. The students will also participate in two more days next term within the local community.

Learning Plaza

A learning plaza approach is being developed for the Year 8 curriculum.

Sport

The Year 11 rugby team beat St Anne's Academy, Rochdale 56-0 in the North West Stages of the English Schools' Champion Schools' Cup. They now move on to the next round.

Charities

Jeans for Genes Day - A number of students and staff were sponsored to wear pyjamas for the day to raise money for the Children's Critical Care and Jeans for Genes charities.

Children in Need - Funds were raised by collection boxes, students and staff paying to vote for a member of staff to be 'gunged', selling cakes and toffees, and sponsoring staff and students to dress up or wear non uniform.

Coulsdon

Croydon Christmas Lights

Students entertained the crowds in the Whitgift Centre on Saturday 15th November and helped to switch on Croydon's Christmas Lights! 25 Academy students performed a 30 minute dance and samba drumming routine prior to the festive switch on by The Mayor of Croydon, Cllr Jonathan Driver and actor Brian Blessed. Students wore outfits designed especially for the afternoon of Christmas celebrations.

Students Help Recruit Oasis Academy Principal

Three Year 10 students volunteered to help with the recruitment process for appointing a Principal for the second Oasis Academy in Enfield. Yinka, Dzifa & Reece travelled to the Strand Palace Hotel in London, to give all the candidates a real grilling to make sure they measured up to their high expectations as to the qualities required to be an effective Principal. They fed back their opinions to the Oasis Board Selection Panel after which they enjoyed a 5-star lunch at the Hotel. All three students were commended on their behaviour, maturity and conduct throughout the morning. The questions they asked were extremely sharp and thought provoking.

GCSE Humanities

On Wednesday 19th November, members of Year 10 who sat the GCSE Humanities exams were presented with their certificates, watched by younger year groups. The audience listened to two members of the Year 11 Student Leadership Team who shared with them the positive aspects of taking this exam early.

Oasis Photo Exhibition

The Academy were delighted to host the 'My Hood: CR7' photo exhibition in the Year 11 hub on behalf of the Foyer@Croydon. Year 11 students and their parents were invited to the viewing which took place on Thursday 20th November. The Foyer was set up by Oasis in 2000 to provide temporary accommodation for young people aged 18-25 who find themselves homeless. Each resident at the Foyer receives a tailored programme of support covering basic life skills such as cooking and budgeting as well as skills for employment and/or education. The exhibition consisted of photos taken by young residents of the Foyer, capturing their local community.

Bristol

A Passion for Print Exhibition

The exhibition and workshops took place with community artists Nicola Gissing and James Starr:

- * 40 people from the local community attended a preview evening.
- * By the end of term, all art classes—about 500 students—will have used the exhibition as a link to their class work.
- * All Year 7 groups worked with the artist and staff members on the exhibition.
- * A total of 90 Year 6 students from a local primary school, Knowle Park, have taken part in workshops linked to the exhibition.
- * Community classes start Wednesday 26th November - 14 adults will use the gallery and work with exhibiting artists and members of staff.
- * A lunchtime printing club will take place every lunchtime in the Art Gallery from 1st December until the end of term and will be making Christmas cards linked to the exhibition work. 60—100 students are expected over the 2 week period.
- * 90 primary school students from 6 feeder schools visited the gallery with their parents.



Aladdin

The Pantomime Aladdin is planned for January. Fifty students are involved with the performance either in acting roles or on the technical side.

Anti-Bullying

The Academy held a successful anti-bullying week with a full programme of events both in the classroom and in student assemblies.

Wintringham

Nominations, Prizes and More...

- * 2 Wintringham students have been nominated for Student Mayor for Young People.
- * The Academy has 2 Art prizewinners for BBC Blast.
- * 2 students also won prizes for the Oasis photo competition.
- * The football team won the boys district final and the girls netball team were runners up in the final.
- * Teachers' TV have been into the Academy for 2 days, regarding the approach to CPD.

County Level Sport

4 students have been selected to play sports for their county—an amazing achievement!

- * Harry Warwick has been selected for under 15 Lincolnshire County Cricket, and Steven Crossley for the under 16's. Brad Richards has been selected for under 16 Lincolnshire Soccer and Josh Walker for under 15 Lincolnshire Rugby.

Positive Press—Grimsby Telegraph

Students Stewart Hyde and Aaron Stowers, as well as Jane Bowman, were interviewed for a full-page article that featured in the Grimsby Telegraph about the 10% rise of student participation in sport across NE Lincolnshire. The Academy has been credited with being behind the rise because of hosting the School Sports Partnership.

Immingham

Fundraising

- * Sixth Form students raised over £300 for Breast Cancer awareness with a brilliant fashion show.
- * Children In Need was once again supported by the Sixth Formers who put themselves up for auction to be slaves for the day. Years 7-12 and staff(!) bid for 11 Sixth Form students and raised over £200.
- * Instead of Christmas cards this year, Sixth Form students are donating money to Sheffield Children's Hospital. Students will write a gift tag and put it on the Sixth Form Christmas tree and donate the money they would have spent on cards to the hospital.

Sixth Form Open Morning

The Sixth Form open morning took place on Saturday 22nd November. All Year 11 students from the Academy and surrounding schools were invited and it was a successful morning.

Year 12 Parents' Evening

On Thursday 6th November the Academy held their first parent - tutor meeting. Parents were invited to speak to tutors about progress and attainment so far. It was a very positive evening with many parents commenting on how settled and happy the Sixth Form students are.

Enterprise Week

During the week of November 17th – 21st, Oasis Academy Immingham undertook a week of enterprising challenges in association with National Enterprise Week. The challenges gave students the opportunity to create an enterprising product or offer a service, plan the venture, implement their plan and evaluate their progress. All students were taught about marketing, production, sales, design and many more aspects of business. On the Friday the students came together to sell their products, inviting parents and members of the community in. Business Advisers from local firms came in to advise the students throughout the week and prizes were given for various categories. The week was a huge success with all students enjoying and learning from a unique opportunity and a different way of learning.

Remembrance

A whole Academy Remembrance Day assembly was held on Friday 7th November. The Mayor and representatives from local churches attended along with the Local British Legion who carried the standard. £235 was raised from the Poppy Appeal.

Enfield

Award Winner!

Oasis Academy Enfield have won the award for unlocking student potential via the 3E's programme. New additions to this programme in module 2 include trampolining, ball room dancing, a book club and golf.

Year 8 London Trip

Year 8 students went on a trip to Central London where they visited the National Gallery, Covent Garden and the British Embassy.

Year 7 Public Transport Safety Trip

Students in Year 7 went on a trip to learn about safety when on public transport. Students listened to a presentation delivered by Transport for London and then produced pieces of drama outlining the different ways that people should behave in a responsible manner. The final drama pieces were shown in assembly and were so good that staff and students alike were mesmerised at times and laughing at others!

End of Module Assessments

End of module assessment days have passed and students demonstrated a level of maturity in the way that they conducted themselves that the Academy were very proud of.

Student Jobs

All students within the Academy are given the opportunity to apply for a student job of their choice. Some examples of the roles include zoo keeper, press officer and learning platform assistants. Students have now started their jobs and are very positive about the contribution they can make to Academy life.

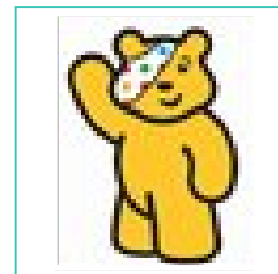
Brightstowe

5—7th November 2008

The Academy held some very positive staff training and well-being days with external providers commenting on the enthusiasm and consistency of the staff.

Children in Need

On the 14th November all Houses developed their own ways of raising money as well as the traditional non-uniform approach. The highlight was the netball match between the Year 11 girls' netball team (Bristol Champions) and the staff (mixed team!). Julie Winterman declared the result a draw! Money is still coming in...



Community Service

24 Year 10 students are about to set off to clean and maintain a cottage in Wales.

Academic Review Day, 19th November

There was excellent focus and attendance and the statistics are still being analysed. Every student reviewed their current working levels/grades against targets, and Individual Learning Plans were updated. 50% of Year 11 students have volunteered for after school revision classes in mathematics as a result of guidance on the day.

Year 6 Day, 20th November

197 primary students visited Oasis Academy Brightstowe for a morning of learning. An enjoyable timetable of challenges and fun was set up with 100% of visitors saying they had learnt new things.

Year 9 Taster Session, week beginning 10th November

Year 9 students enjoyed taster sessions in vocational courses across our North Bristol partnership. The Academy hosted the session for Health and Social Care. They received very positive feedback— the week helped students to make choices and the schools to plan the partnership curriculum.

Celebration

321 Principal's Commendation Certificates have been issued to date for excellence.

Lord's Hill

Musical Futures / Roland Champion School

The Academy has been selected as a Musical Futures/Roland Champion School, having been recognised as an example of best practice! Musical Futures is a project set up to personalise music education and to encourage new and exciting ways of engaging students in music-making. The nomination means the Academy will host and run 4 special training events over the next 2 years and students will benefit from the free loan to the school of specialist Roland equipment.

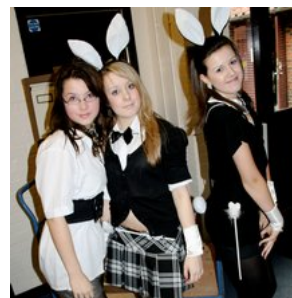
Currently, 48 Year 9 music students are following a programme of study developed from the Musical Futures project and are working to achieve a Level 1 RockschooL qualification this year. 37 Key Stage 4 students are working towards Level 2 qualifications, a large number of whom have already achieved the RockschooL Award (worth 1 GCSE) or the RockschooL Certificate (worth 3 GCSEs). Keep an ear out for showcase concerts!

Maths Trail

On Friday 5th December the Academy are holding a Maths Trail in the Quad on the Lower School site at lunchtime; in aid of the NSPCC ChildLine Number Day. Students and staff will donate 50p to take part. There will be a cake stall, prizes and a raffle. It should be a fun lunchtime and hopefully raise lots of money!

Children in Need

The Academy raised a total of £450 for Children in Need on Friday 14th November. Staff and students were allowed to wear non-uniform or fancy dress and there were prizes awarded for the best outfits. We had a particularly good Tinky Winky outfit from a member of staff!



Football

The Year 7 football team had a resounding result against Chamberlayne Park with the Academy winning 10-1. Yes, 10-1! The whole team had an excellent match with Michael Douglas and Jamie Parker scoring twice.

Mayfield

St John Ambulance

Following a successful First Aid Course, the Academy are creating a St John Ambulance Cadets Division in January. Cadets can participate in over 70 different subjects from 8 different arms of the St John Ambulance Amalfi Cross. At each stage of the programme cadets are awarded a certificate and badge to wear on their uniform. Further training will lead to bronze, silver and gold awards, and a final Grand Prior Award.



Sailing

Year 10 students enjoyed an action packed week at the UK Sailing Academy at Cowes, Isle of Wight. Local employer, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Lines, sponsored the week which included dinghy sailing, keel boats, power boating, windsurfing and canoeing. Senior executives from Wilhelmsen Lines joined the group for the keel boat session, and later gave a presentation outlining the range of careers available in the maritime industry. Further maritime opportunities will be provided for students, including progressing to large offshore yachts.



Gold Award for Languages

Oasis Academy Mayfield are one of 5 schools from Hampshire to have been chosen by The University of Southampton to take part in an exciting initiative entitled the Gold Award for Languages, which links languages with work experience. The project will offer Year 10 students work experience with international businesses, community work acting as Language Leaders in linked primary schools, and a language challenge taking part in a visit or exchange.

Boxing

Students involved in boxing classes have commented on how it helps their self-discipline, confidence and fitness!