# THE SPRING HALF TERM COMES TO AN END.....

The half term has been very busy for both staff and students and here are just some of the highlights we'd like to share with you.

# **CAMDEN CAREERS THIS WEEK**

During half term on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February there was a Camden Careers and networking fair for young people organised by Fitzrovia Youth in Action. There were 24 businesses covering different industries like construction and engineering, finance, media, fashion, retail, transport and technology. Students had the opportunity to find out about future career paths from a diverse range of industries and employers in the Indian YMCA in Fitzrovia Square.







# **MOSAIC CHALLENGE**

This term a group of Year 7 students have been taking part in the Mosaic Enterprise Challenge, organised by business teacher Mr Marshall. Founded by The Prince of Wales in 2007, Mosaic's mentoring programmes create opportunities for young people to be supported to realise their potential.

This year's challenge required students to create an online business simulation game that replicates the real world, they also had to complete a questionnaire giving their opinions on ethical business and sustainability. The trust came in to school and delivered a session on the challenge in the Learning Resource Centre. The Year 7 students really took to the challenge and so far over 4500 students have taken part nationwide. We wish our students the best of luck after all their hard work, the finalists will be announced on Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of March.











# **MAKING GOOD CHOICES, Y8 STUDENTS**

On Tuesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of February a group of students were visited by Luke Chapman from King's College, London to discuss the importance of making good choices in Key Stage 3. In a lively and interactive session, boys learned more about University life and began to produce action plans which detail the steps they need to take in order to achieve their academic aspirations. Pictured below are Anes, Casey and Gabe. Casey in 8L said "I liked seeing how University is going to be and what it's all about."







# **CONFLICT RESOLUTION TRAINING**

On Thursday the 9<sup>th</sup> of February all of Year 8 took part in a sequence of sessions around the topic of Conflict Resolution. The day was fun and informative, with sessions ranging from discussions to lectures to an interactive theatre performance which saw the boys directly influencing the plot of the piece they were seeing and even taking the stage themselves!

The boys in Year 8 enjoyed the day and felt that it had been a powerful and valuable experience, delivered in a unique and enjoyable way. Rammy in 8W said:

"We all learned how to avoid conflict in different situations, like on the bus and train. It was really fun, especially the theatre session!"









# **MP Susan Elan Jones visit**

There was a visit from MP Susan Elan Jones organised by the City year team. Susan was taken for a tour around school by City Year and shown how the pupils benefit in school through the volunteers. MP Susan Elan Jones served as Parliamentary Private Secretary to Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP, Susan was a member of Labour's frontbench team between 2011 and 2016. She is now a member of the House of Commons Committee on Standards and the Committee of Privileges.

Susan had an enjoyable visit finding out about how City Year contribute to school life at William Ellis. Each year City Year provides a team of volunteers who are here to support students learning. Each volunteer is assigned a Year group and provides support to students through mentoring; Homework Club, supporting school trips amongst many other things. Here are some comments from Head teacher Sam White:

"We were delighted to host Susan Elan Jones MP today at William Ellis and show her how our pupils benefit from interacting with the City Year UK's full-time volunteers. We have partnered with the organisation for nearly five years and the volunteers have helped us to improve attendance, transform behaviour and engage pupils in class. They help us in many ways, from running the breakfast club to helping with school trips and workplace readiness days. The volunteers themselves gain from the experience and were proud to share our success story with Ms Jones."





# **LGBTQ** Deep Learning Day

Deep Learning Day on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February was dedicated to LGBTQ, Lesbian Gay Transgender and Questioning.

Students had a special day dedicated to the chosen topic with a range of activities. Guest speakers came in with a Stonewall representative, who spoke about being a gay policeman and proposing to his partner at the Pride march this year. Another guest spoke about his experience of feeling different, stereotypes and learning how to feel good about himself through clothes and self-expression. In addition there was an interesting session about how LGBTQ characters are portrayed in film, Jack in Year 8 had this to say:

"The main positives of Equality DLD were the fact school got an external speaker to talk about his experiences and his story. Another positive reason was we did a section about film as it is more fun to watch things than spend the lesson writing things down"

At lunchtime to tie in with the DLD theme there was an Equalities quiz in the Learning Resource Centre with students from each house and year testing their new found knowledge.





There was an LGBTQ book display in the Learning Resource Centre in case students wanted to read around the subject and Ms Rushbrook, Learning Resource Centre manager, put together a book list for the day of LGBTQ book titles available in the Learning Resource Centre.

# WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL



NEWS - FEBRUARY 2017

# **LGBTQ Book list**

# **Non-fiction**

Mind your head by Juno Dawson Being a boy by James Dawson This book is gay by Juno Dawson

### **General fiction**

Hollow Pike by Juno Dawson
Say her name by Juno Dawson
Under my skin by Juno Dawson
Far from you by Tess Sharpe
Postcards from no man's land by Aidan Chambers
Simon vs. the Homo sapiens agenda by Becky Albertalli
Will Grayson Will Grayson by John Green and David Leviathan
The miseducation of Cameron Post by Emily.M.Danforth
More than this by Patrick Ness
The art of being normal by Lisa Williamson
Boys don't cry by Malorie Blackman
Every Day by David Leviathan
Grasshopper jungle by Andrew Smith
Maurice by E.M. Forster
Maggot moon by Sally Gardner

Aristotle and Dante discover the secrets of the universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz

# Fantasy fiction

The Raven cycles by Maggie Stiefvater
The Half Life trilogy by Sally Green

### **Graphic novels**

Adrian the tree of secrets by Hubert

# **CAMDEN DEBATING COMPETITION**

A group of Year 7s took part in a Debating competition at Camden School for Girls. The competition was organised and fundraised for by a Camden School for Girls student, who is passionate about debating. It was open to 11-13 year olds in local state schools and was a student led program. The debating competition covered a range of topics and students had to prepare arguments for and against a range of issues.





# LASWAP AND WES OPEN MIC – 27<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

On Friday the 27<sup>th</sup> of January there was an Open Mic that sixth formers and KS5 students took part in, performing songs they'd been working on this term. It was a termly opportunity to gain experience of performing in front of an audience and the first time it had taken place in the Learning Resource Centre.

It seemed to work well as a venue with sixth formers, staff and the regular lunchtime LRC crowd packing out the space. The audience got to hear KS5 students Pablo and Aison perform a Radiohead cover and Adam sing two ballads. Then sixth former Luke with her guitar covered a Smiths and David Bowie song. Then the event came to a rousing end with Ms Ijiti, a City Year volunteer, bringing the house down with Hello by Adele.







# WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL

# NEWS - FEBRUARY 2017











# **HOUSE POETRY SLAM**

The annual House Poetry Slam took place on Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> of January with students performing original pieces they had been writing this term. The Year 8s had the highest number of participants with Aurel performing another student's work and Gabriel reciting a poem dedicated to the City Year volunteers. The Poetry Slam ended with Anes delivering a poem about following your dreams and Ms Conran performing an original poem.





# **WESPA ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT**

WESPA'S Annual Quiz Night is coming up on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Parents and friends are invited to join us for a fun filled quiz evening. This year our Quiz Master will be the fabulous David Baddiel just back from a stint filming in Africa for Comic Relief.

Doors and bar open 7pm with first question at 7.30pm. Finish time 10pm. There will be a £50 cash prize and a trophy for the winning team. Questions to suit all quiz ability levels! Tickets £5 each including food – a bargain!

Teams of six to eight but you don't need to come as a whole team. If you come alone or in a small group we'll link you up with others to form a team. It will be a great chance to meet other parents and staff, have some fun, and support the school. So please try to come and spread the word to encourage others. Payment will be on the door, but please email <a href="mailto:anna.wright@blueyonder.co.uk">anna.wright@blueyonder.co.uk</a> if you are planning to come so that we can plan for numbers. See you there!





# WESPA Quiz Night 7pm Friday 24th February

Hosted by **David Baddiel**Tickets **Only &5** & inc food



**&50 cash prize** and a trophy for winners. Ticket price includes: Mediterranean meze, bread, cheese, light bites. Food generously provided by **Bistro Laz**. Refreshments available from WESPA bar. Doors & bar opens 7pm with first question at 7.30pm. Finish time 9.30pm.

Teams of 8 but you don't need to come as a whole team as we'll link you up with others. A great chance to meet other **parents & staff** & support the school. **Tickets sold on the door** but do please RSVP to WESPA: williamellispa@gmail.com

# RECONNECT PROJECT

A group of students at William Ellis School recently took part in the Reconnect project, a project aimed at challenging how teenagers relate to technology.

The Reconnect Project was founded by Erin Cotter, who lives in Lady Somerset Road, Kentish Town. The project has been launched as a pilot in three secondary schools and was a six week programme exploring how teenagers interact with screens.

There was an article in the Camden New Journal by a sixth form student at Camden School for Girls charting how being without her phone affected her. There was a psychological test to begin with evaluating how the individual interacted with technology before the experiment. The student then went on to chart how it felt being without her phone. Initially she explains that she became frustrated but that as the week went on she got used to it and found she had lots of time for other things. She also started re-engaging with activities she had not done in a while and by the end was concerned about how it would affect her to get her phone back.

After it had finished the project's findings were debated by parents, teenagers and experts with a panel that includes the Young Bond author Charlie Higson, in the Star Pub, Dartmouth Park.



# WILLIAM ELLIS SCHOOL

NEWS - FEBRUARY 2017

Ms Cotter said: "Young people are cleverer than we give them credit for and I think they have it built into them to do things that serve them well." She said many of the young people had become "amazed to find how much time they had for other things in their life" and "that one of the most surprising issues that arose from the switch-off was the example set by adults". Ms Cotter said she did not want to get too scientific about the issue, but said there were reams of interesting research about the "profile-esque development" of young people.

# And Thanks.

Our thanks to City Year for all the help they give the school to enable us to run all these extra activities, to WESPA for their support at many of our events and for their fundraising activities and to the staff and students who all give their time to help make the school such a great community



# TWO TELEVISION OPPORTUNITIES

Call out for families interested in being on television and expressing their views either on Brexit or food shopping with ITV show called "The Money Saving Good Food Show". Please see posters for further details.











# NEWS FROM CAMDEN – UNDERGRADUATE AND POST GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES

# SCHOLARSHIPS OPPRTUNITY WITH HULT INTERNATIONAL

Camden Council is offering life-changing scholarships with Hult International Business School and Anglia Ruskin University, starting in September 2017. A range of undergraduate and post-graduate courses are offered, with opportunities available for either fully funded or part-funded tuition fees. The scholarships are open to Camden residents, there is no upper age limit and both part-time and full-time courses are available.



Camden Council has negotiated life-changing scholarships with Hult International Business School and Anglia Ruskin University, London for Camden residents of all ages starting September 2017.

Both institutions qualify for UK student loans.

### **Hult Business School, London**

- Hult undergraduate scholarship is FREE and worth £90,000
- Hult postgraduate scholarship is FREE and worth £45,000
- Option to study for 3 months in Boston, Shanghai, Dubai
- Hult is ranked Top 10 in the world for post-graduate salaries
- Campuses based locally in Aldgate East / Bloomsbury
- Part-time study options available

# **Anglia Ruskin University, London**

- Anglia Ruskin University, London offers a 50% reduction in tuition fees
- Choose from a wide range of courses including MBAs
- Practical paid work experience available for some courses
- Campus located locally in Farringdon

The deadline for applications is March 31st 2017, so get your application in whilst you can! For further information and details of the application criteria, please visit <a href="mailto:camden.gov.uk/camdenscholarships">camden.gov.uk/camdenscholarships</a>.