



News Update (26th May 2023)

Dear families,

This newsletter is packed full of trips and visits that have taken place recently, including in Science and PE. The visit to The Crick Institute is an example of partnership work in Camden between schools, academia and industry and reminds me of how lucky we are to have local opportunities such as this. I would like to commend all the students who have taken part in these activities and thank the staff and families who have worked to make them so successful for all involved.

Meanwhile in school, Year 11 and 13 students have now completed a substantial proportion of their public exams and I know are anxious that their hard work and revision pays off – as are we! Well done to them for their hard work and I hope that those with exams after half term can use this coming week for rest and continued study.

At the end of a busy term, today's Non-Uniform Day has raised just under £250 so far for the [Water Aid](#) charity, with some donations yet to be counted.

Looking ahead to June and July

Students will return to school on Tuesday 6th June at 8:30am. Year 9 will begin their GCSE courses and will have a new timetable and some new teachers. As a result, there will be some timetable changes for other year groups. These will appear on the MyChildAtSchool app over half term and families and students should use this to make sure that the right books and equipment are packed for the first day back.

When they return, students will have break and lunch at the following times:

	Break	Lunch
Year 7 and 8	9:50 – 10:15	12:15 – 1:10
Year 9, 10 and any Year 11/12/13 on site	10:50 – 11:15	1:10 – 2:05

This arrangement will continue until Monday 3rd July. After this date we will have a common break and lunchtime again, so that we can support Year 10 work experience visits and Year 7 and 8 camp weeks.

The Student Council presented to the governing body last week about their views on many aspects of school life including lunchtimes, and in particular their work on diversity and equalities and strengthening the school community. Their priorities, including facilities and outdoor spaces, will be part of our ongoing works programme and we will update you on aspects of this as we get closer to the summer holidays.

Yours faithfully,

Izzy Jones, Headteacher



Ski Adventure 2023

Karl Altmann, Assistant Headteacher

It was a fabulous trip last month to the Piedmonte region of Italy, where my French came in handy! The trip was made all the better with a fresh snow fall mid-week! Our boys (from across Years 7-11) enjoyed a week of skiing and much more...

I'll let the boys do the writing...



Artesina

Heath (8K) and James (8F):

"We did many amazing things on the ski trip in Italy, Roccaforte Mondovi, such as a bowling night with arcades and at the end we got to play and got free drinks and the teachers did a cool zombie VR experience that from our point of view looked ridiculous!

Another thing was we had quiz night with the reward of sweets and souvenirs. Other nights to keep us entertained, we had movie night and watched a comedy superhero film which changes every trip – and most importantly 4 hours a day worth of skiing with 3 diverse groups of ability.



At the hotel having dinner

Mister Altmann did some amazing skiing and taught the other teachers how to do some cool off *piste* skiing at high speeds that was as good as the instructors themselves".

James says: "My highlight on the ski trip was having a wonderful 4-hour long skiing session in the Artesina ski resort. And going to have pizza in the local town and learning about its history and swimming in the hotel pool".

Heath adds: "My main highlight of the ski trip was the amazing natural grotto that we did a tour of for 1 hour and learnt about the history of an old experiment about living in caves, it was amazing seeing the stalagmites and stalactites all over the place and towards the end as it got dark, we saw tiny bat flying about".



Outside the pizza restaurant

The grotto:



The nearby town Mondovi:





Basketball Play-offs Trip Josh Levitt, Head of PE

On Sunday 14th May, 30 students went to the O2 Arena to see a very successful day for the London Lions, as both their teams were crowned champions of the WBL and the BBL. For many of the students it was their first time to watch a professional basketball match and they were inspired by the crowd interaction, trying their best to get on the 'dance cam' and cheering on The Lions. The half time show included music from local artists and a very exciting dunk competition which brought everyone in the arena to their feet.

It was a fantastic day out for the students, who did us all proud demonstrating the 5R's in the stadium and on public transport to and from the venue.



Let's hope The Lions make it to the finals next year. Keep an eye out for ticket information in 2024.

For the boys wanting to emulate The Lions, a reminder that Basketball Club is on Mondays after school until 4.30pm.

Year 13 Crick Institute Trip Jane Hugo, Science Teacher

The Year 13 Applied Science group had a trip to the Francis Crick institute last week and attended a genetic engineering workshop.





Laura Madsen, Head of Art, Craft & Design:

Year 10 Art & Graphics Students' Work at the Highgate Festival

Year 10 Art & Graphics students worked on the 'Cabinet of Curiosities' project at Lauderdale House last term, creating multiple artworks in ceramic, bronze and print. They will have their work displayed at Lauderdale House as part of the [Highgate Festival](#) next month.



Waitrose Cookery School trip with Year 10's budding chefs

On Tuesday the 16th of May the Year 10 Hospitality and Catering students went to visit the Waitrose Cookery School in Granary Square. The students loved the amazing kitchen facilities and listened to the radio while they made fresh *cavatelli* pasta and tomato sauce.

Once they finished cooking we all sat outside in the sunshine to eat the food. It was delicious! We also had elderflower cordial then walked back to school by the canal. Charlie in Year 10 told me he felt that we were all being very civilized - and I had to agree as the group's behaviour was perfect and they all produced fantastic food!





Well done to Year 11 Art students

Year 11 completed their GCSE controlled assessment this month. The culmination of their work in lessons was 10 hours spent making their final artwork over two days. The theme set this year was 'Lock'. students worked really hard and made a diverse range of work in response to the theme. We are looking forward to displaying all the work for our art show later this year.



LaSWAP alumnus achievement



On the 18th of May, Ms Kendall and I were very proud to go and visit former student Karen Gomez and see her work on display at St Martins University UAL. Karen left LaSWAP last year to complete her foundation course. She wanted to share her thanks to the team at LaSWAP and also let us know that she had been chosen as one of only 7 students out of 70 to go on to study her degree at UAL in Fashion Communication. She also said she wanted to support current Sixth Form students by coming back to talk to current students and help them to apply to university in return for the support she felt she had been given while studying during the pandemic at LaSWAP.

Fish Hero Programme Gloria Sinnott, Food Technology Teacher

Year 10's have recently had the opportunity to make sushi with Alaskan salmon as part of the 'Fish Hero Programme'.





Books Wanted!

Flora Wilson, Director of Sixth Form

After half term, we will be starting a project within the Sixth Form Centre, to encourage independent reading for pleasure (and for deeper understanding of curriculum subjects).

If you are intending to have a clear-out over the Bank Holiday weekend / half term, please do keep an eye out for books that you think may be of interest to students aged 16-19. If you wish to donate them to us, please bring them to the Sixth Form Centre Office.

Thank you in advance!

SEN Notices

Vu Gawe, SENDCO

DFN Project SEARCH Open Event at Whittington Hospital

DFN Project SEARCH and Ambitious College are hosting an open event at the Whittington Hospital giving young people aged 16 to 25 with an EHC plan, and their families/carers, an opportunity to learn about their supported internship programme.

This event will take place on **Wednesday 7th June 3.30-5pm in The Whittington Education Centre.**

The programme is designed to empower young people, aged 16 to 25 with an EHC plan, with the skills and confidence needed to find competitive full-time employment. The programme is based at the Whittington Hospital five days per week with a variety of roles available, including administration, facilities, and hospitality.

Please contact admissions@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk to find out more and to book your space.

Parents and Year 10/11 students with dyslexia needed to share their experiences

The Practice around Access Arrangements for Students with SpLD (PAASS) study is led by a team of researchers at University College London. They have conducted interviews with practitioners to understand the support that students with dyslexia are typically offered for their exams.

Now they want to hear from parents and students with dyslexia (in Years 10 or 11) that are receiving exam access arrangements (e.g., extra time, use of a laptop, a scribe).

If you would be willing to share your experience over a 30-min online interview, please contact Dr Emma Sumner directly on e.sumner@ucl.ac.uk. Students will receive a £10 Amazon voucher as a thank you for their time.

Do note the deadline for responding to this study is Monday 5th June 2023.