

The Harefield Academy Newsletter - July 2017 Edition

# The Harefield Academy

*Achievement through Active Learning*



## Welcome to our July Newsletter



### The Harefield Academy Prom 2017



Another year, another Prom! Students in the class of 2011-2016 attended the Year 11 Prom on the evening of Friday 14th July to celebrate their last five years of study. The Prom was the

### Year 11 student, Lewis, makes his debut for Watford FC



Congratulations to Year 11 student, Lewis Gordon, who at the age of 16 came off the bench for Watford FC's First Team on Saturday 15th July.

He has been at The Harefield Academy since Year 7. Well done Lewis, we are very proud of you.

### English Gymnast Champion 2017, Alida

perfect way to end the year and all students looked fantastic dressed in evening gowns and suits. Everyone made a huge effort to look great and arrive in style as parents and friends of the students gathered around to see them arrive in style in an array of limousines and classic cars.



A fantastic evening was had by both students and staff and the students left a great impression of The Academy with everyone who witnessed their evening.

I would like to thank all the staff who attended and helped make it the success it was.



I would also like to wish our students the best of luck with their GCSE results and the best of luck for the future. (Mr G. Brown)

**Hillingdon Secondary School  
Book of the Year Award**



Congratulations to Year 10 student, Alida Bogdanova, who came first and is the top Junior gymnast in the English Championships 2017 after competing recently.

Well done Alida, we are all very proud of you.

**Sports Day  
2017**



Sports Day 2017 was a very different but equally compelling sporting extravaganza. For the first time in our 12 year history, Sports Day did not crown an overall House Winner instead Houses within Year groups fought it out to become crowned champions.

What a hard fought battle it was too! Every competing student worked their hardest to earn points for their House and as we witnessed each and every triumph supporters cheered on.



(Students Charleigh Burke, Marie Cordingley, Inmaculada Diaz Gil, Ethan Heffer, Jessie Horton, Courtney Parish-Moore, Fairouz Jahan, Ashleigh Varley pictured above with the new Mayor of Hillingdon - Councillor Carol Melvin)

This yearly Book award organised by the Hillingdon School Library Service aims to improve literacy for Year 7 students who are still developing their reading skills and to promote reading for pleasure.

This year, nine Year 7 students took part in the award. Each student had to read six shortlisted books over a period of several months; *The Demon Undertaker* by Cameron McCallister, *Wonder Boy* by Nicole Burstein, *Accidental Super Star* by Marianne Levy, *Barefoot on the Wind* by Zoe Marriott, *The Power of Dark* by Robin Jarvis and *Cuckoo* by Keren David.

The finale event was held at The Middlesex Suite, Uxbridge Civic Centre on the 25th May. On arrival students took part in a workshop led by their favourite author along with students from other Hillingdon secondary schools. Each book group worked together to produce a 5 minute presentation to promote their book. At the end of the morning the presentations were judged by the Mayor of Hillingdon and two other judges.

After the presentations, students voted for their winning book. This year's winner was **Barefoot on the Wind** by **Zoe Marriott**. This was certainly a winner from our students.

(Mrs Hewett)

## Summer Fair is a Sizzling Sunshine Success!



This year after two years of Navratilova dominance other Houses got to share the glory. The overall winners were as follows:

### Year 7

1st place - Lewis House

2nd place - Navratilova House

3rd place - Coe House

### Year 8

1st place - Coe House

2nd place - Lewis House

3rd place - Pelé House

### Year 9

1st place Grey-Thompson House

2nd place - Navratilova House

3rd place - Lewis House

### Year 10

1st place - Lewis House

2nd place - Grey-Thompson House

3rd place - Coe House

(Mrs Davey)

## Sixth Former wins SPOTY Award at Royal Holloway University



Year 12 Physics student, Panagiota Spyrou has won the School Physicist of the Year Award 2017.



THA students and staff were proud to participate in this year's Harefield St Mary's Village summer fair.

"The fair was a great success," said Amanda Gordon, Assistant Headteacher at THA, a regular event which students and staff support in order to create closer links with our local community and enjoy having great fun with all of our local friends and families.

The wooden stocks 'soak a teacher' was popular, and the biscuit decorating displayed great creativity. Many visitors tried a game of table tennis against our super star boarder student, Daniel Tang and lots of people enjoyed playing football 'keepy uppy' with lots of our other boarding students who were excited to join us and chat to friends in the village.



We'd like to thank everyone who came and all our helpers, including James and Trevor from our THA site team who supplied the staff with lots of strawberries and cream as well as Assistant

This award was conducted by Royal Holloway University of London. The event took place on 6th July 2017 where students from other schools were also awarded, aiming to enthuse and encourage students to study Physics and making Physics interesting.

This super event had the following agenda:

6.00 pm - 6.30 pm Buffet refreshments and chance to meet current students

6.30 pm - 7.00 pm "Catching the Physics Bug" talk by Rupert Mellor, Ultracold Physics researcher

7.00 pm - 8.00 pm Awards Ceremony

8.00 pm - Closing remarks

I am very proud of Panagiota's achievement and determination. Congratulations #thaproud

(Ms Sharma, Science teacher)

### **Boarders 18 Mile Run for UNICEF Charity**



On 24th June, our Boarders endured a 5K run at the Aquadrome to raise money for UCEF human trafficking awareness. Most of the boarders involved raised over £100 as everyone completed the race. The weather was amazing, those who couldn't get involved helped cheer everyone on past the finish line.

It was a pleasure to see the Boarders get involved and raise money for a charity, well done to them all.  
(Mr Harrison)

### **Students visit the History of Science Museum**

Headteachers Carmel Brady and Uthman Odutayo who joined in with all the fun of the fair and even agreed to get soaked in the stocks!

## Year 7 and Year 8 Students Trip to the Design Museum



On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June a group of Year 7 and Year 8 students had the opportunity to go to the 'Design Museum'. It was a wonderful experience as it allowed us to expand our thoughts on how we view our everyday objects and helped us to develop our understanding of design. The students were able to attend a workshop about the design of the chair and explored a range of different designs of chair. The students were also able to create designs of their own personal chair. This art trip allowed the students to see how the designs gave everyday objects individuality and the fascinating process of how it is brought to life. This exhibition was called the 'Designer, Maker and User'. This trip helped us to value the ordinary objects around us more. Here is what a few of the students had to say...

**Billy Tyson** "The art gallery was really good and interesting. I learnt a lot and also I really enjoyed the workshop because it made me think art is more than just drawing and colouring."

Students visited the History of Science Museum recently where they saw most of the Physics practical equipment that they have studied about and also microscopes from the past until now, including the first battery. There was an IR camera on display where they could see how much IR their bodies were emitting, it was extraordinary for them. We also visited the UN offices and Natural History Museum which were also extraordinary and filled with various scientific amazements.

Our main trip to CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research) was the best part of this trip, where students arrived early in the morning to the venue and were given an opportunity to visit the Globe (27 metres high and 40 metres in diameter, it's about the size of the dome of Saint Peter's in Rome!) where they went to see the "Universe of Particles" exhibition which took them on a journey deep into the world of particles and back to the Big Bang. Later we went across the road in the main building of CERN where we saw Microcosm exhibition where we discovered the full scale and wonder of CERN's monumental experiments. Students followed the path of the particles from a bottle of hydrogen, through the network of accelerators

**Raahim Agha** "I think it was very informative and I had lots of fun. It was very intriguing and I learnt lots of new things from the Design Museum."

**Fairooz Jahan** "It was an incredible trip which was educational and enjoyable. I liked how it portrayed each object by showing how it was created in great detail and by telling us the history behind it. It was a fun experience."

**Marie Cordingley** "The architecture and thought behind both the exhibits and building was phenomenal and it blew me away when I realised there is design in everything. Going past Grenfell Tower made me think design isn't always perfect."  
(Mrs Gupta)

### **Messages from some of our House Tutors and Students...**

**Mr Adele (C7)** A good first year done and dusted C7! Well done to all of you that have worked hard to the summer term. Keep up the good work and I will see you in September for your new term as Year 8 students!

**Mr Ball (C8)** I have only been your Tutor for a few weeks and it has been interesting to say the least. I'm looking forward to working with you as your Tutor next year.

**Mr Martin (L7)** L7 have worked really hard to improve their behaviour and reduce the amount of detentions they receive. I would like to congratulate them all, they have come so far in such a short space of time. It shows what a great group they truly are. Keep up the good work everyone and well done.

**Mrs Sharma (L8)** Congratulations to Marcel for being the student of the week. His polite behaviour and his excellent behaviour towards his peers have gained him this award. Keep it up. Also, well done to L8 for doing really well at the Sports day event, congratulations.

**Mr R. Brown (L10)** Well done to L10 on completing their end of Year 10 mock examinations. They are well and truly exhausted from a busy week of examinations. I am really proud of how hard they have worked. The whole tutor group is looking forward to a restful summer before embarking upon one of the most important years of their lives.

and on to collision inside vast experiments.

The students who went on the trip were very well behaved and followed all the instructions without the need to repeat even once. The journey was maximum 10 minutes to the hotel where we stayed however there was a lot of walking! The weather was very hot, around 35 degrees, which was not helpful and it was very dry as well. I got very positive comments from the Hostel reception as they said that our group was so well behaved that they didn't even realise that there were students staying with them.

The real benefit of this trip lays in the fact that our students understood the importance of studying Science and that they saw the application of what they study is not limited to books.  
(Mrs Sharma)

### **A message from Year 7 Student, Fairooz Jahan, on Life at The Academy**

I started my time at The Harefield Academy as a Year 7 student in Redgrave House. Truthfully speaking I was quite nervous and felt intimidated to be in a school that was significantly bigger than my previous school. However, my feelings soon changed when I was welcomed, with a reassuring greeting, into The Academy by the incredible staff.

If I was to pick a word to describe my first year, I would pick 'amazing'. The Academy is full of excellent teachers who are always supporting you and full of wonderful opportunities. I always receive tremendous help if I am going through an emotional time or finding it difficult to complete a task. Everyone here is supportive and have inspired me to work hard.

In my first year I have learnt lots of invaluable lessons; academic and life skills. This year has shown me how wonderful the teachers are, how amazing the facilities are, how generous the community is and it has displayed the fact that hard work and determination is the key to success. It has also showed me the helpful caring nature of the staff.

### **...and Year 7 student, Marie Cordingley**

**Miss Shah (N7)** It has been a pleasure to have been N7's form Tutor since January. The majority of the time all of you have made me smile, laugh and be proud of all your accomplishments you have achieved so far. It is a pleasure to watch these young students taking a step closer to their future.

**Mrs Gupta (P10)** A selected few from Year 10 Pelé Tutor Group take part in a programme called The Brilliant Club. The Brilliant Club is an award-winning charity that exists to increase the number of students from under-represented backgrounds progressing to highly-selective Universities. The students take part in weekly discussions, visits to Universities and in-school tutorials. The aim of the programme is to support students aged 10-18 to develop their knowledge, skills and ambition needed to progress to highly-selective Universities.

**Theo Nelhams (Year 8 student)** Sports day is the best day because we get to socialise with other students and do other things outside the classroom.

**Joe Bray (Year 9 student)** My name is Joe Bray, I am a student in R9. My time at The Harefield Academy has been really good this year.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and I look forward to my last two years.

Before I started here I did gymnastics at the Harefield Gymnastics Academy which is run at the school. Since being here I have carried on with gymnastics and I am still enjoying it now. In the summer holidays I am competing at Liverpool for the British Championships. I'm really excited to compete and meet new gymnasts.

**Stylianios Spyrou (Y10 student)** Stylianios Spyrou has described the differences between Greek and English school life:

Did you know in Greece they don't have to wear uniform or PE kit. Also, in Greece they take an equivalent to GCSE's, however the most important exams are taken at the end of Year 13. Also, In England we are very lucky we have a touchscreen or interactive whiteboard in every room whereas in Greece these are only found in the ICT rooms. Another difference in Greece is that all students use the same text book provided by the government and students provide their

Year 7 was phenomenal, I have learnt so much and become closer than ever to my best friend, Fairouz. The teachers have supported me in many ways (not just with our education, but also with people skills).

At first it seemed massive and I thought I wasn't going to go far with getting new friends, but Debate Club has allowed me to express my feelings and make new ones.

### ...and it's Goodbye from me



It is with great sadness that I write my final ever piece for THA Newsletter, but regard it as a wonderful opportunity to reflect on a 13 year journey in a school that will forever remain firmly in my heart.

As many of you know I am leaving this year due to a relocation to Devon, to be honest it needed to be a life changing event to make me leave because I have truly been so happy here. I joined in 2004 for the last year of John Penrose and embarked on the remarkable transition to become The Harefield Academy and what an experience it has been. As I reflect on the many changes I have seen I feel blessed to have worked with so many staff, students and families who have enriched my life in ways I would struggle to articulate.

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support, kindness and above all else the relentless drive to make this school great. I wish THA every success for the future and I will follow

own note books! Business studies and Sport studies also doesn't exist in Greek schools! In addition, Greek pupils get a longer summer holiday, it starts around the 6<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> of June depending what year group you are in! (There aren't half terms to break the year up however!)

### and from our Student Managers...

**Mrs Bolger** - Here at The Harefield Academy we are not afraid to make changes for the best outcome for our students. I am now working with Year 8 who will be Year 9 next September and I have had the opportunity of getting to know them over the last few weeks; they are an amazing group of students and I am really looking forward to working with them over the next 3 years. It has been great to see Year 8 students choosing the subject options for GCSE and September will be a big change as they begin their GCSE subjects. It is up to each student to embrace the challenges and changes ahead and make the most of the opportunities given to them. I will be working closely with each student to help them to achieve to the best of their ability. Have an amazing summer.

**Miss Booker** - What a year it's been. I'm sad to no longer be the Student Manager for Lewis House but thrilled to be looking after the new Year 7s next year. I hope everyone has a relaxing summer and I will see you all in September. Best wishes.

**Mrs Raper** - I have the pleasure of working with Year 11 students next year and although I have been a Student Manager of Navratilova House for many years, I have enjoyed getting to know students in the other Houses. The students have had their first taste of exams this term with their mocks and experienced a sense of where their priorities lie for next year.

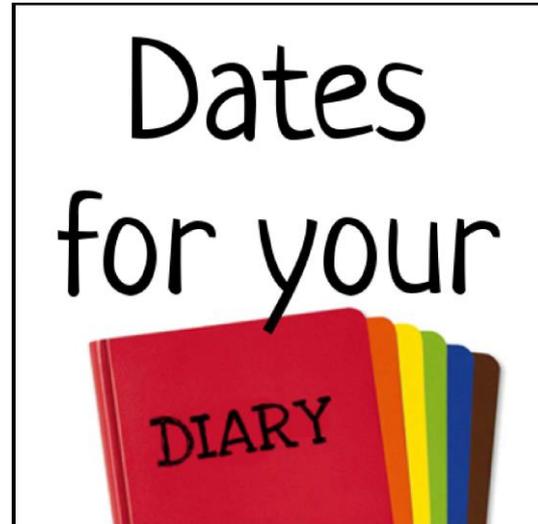
I am looking forward to welcoming back in September a mature, determined and focused Year 11 group and of course seeing them all at Prom next year.

**Mrs Sweeney** - This past half term I have worked with Year 7 and it has been a delight to support all of you. I am so pleased as to how well you are all doing and I especially enjoyed

your progress closely albeit from my home by the sea.

As I say farewell I do so with great sadness but also with fondness for a place where I have truly made lifelong friends and precious memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you.

(Mrs Davey)



#### August

Thu 17th - GCE Results day (10:00am - 11:00am)

Thu 24th - GCSE Results day (10:00am - 11:00am)

Fri 25th - Sixth Form Enrolment Day (10:00am- 1:00pm)

#### September

Mon 4th - Staff Inset Day (No students)

Tue 5th - Start of Term for Year 7 (10:00am - 2:00pm)

Tues 5th - Start of Term for Sixth Form (11:00am - 2:00pm)

Wed 6th - Start of Term for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 (start 8:45am)

Wed 27th - Open Evening (6:00pm - 9:00pm)

#### October

Wed 4th - Year 7 Settling In Evening

Mon 23rd - Fri 27th - Half Term

Mon 30th - Staff INSET Day (No students)

#### November

Wed 8th - Into the Sixth Form Evening (6:00pm - 8:00pm)

Fri 17th - Children in Need - non-uniform day

Wed 29th - Year 9 Parent Evening

watching you work as a Team at sports day. I am really looking forward to next year and supporting you throughout Year 8. I wish you all a wonderful summer with lots of time to relax and enjoy yourselves in preparation for the year ahead!

**Mrs White** - "The Secret of Change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new", Socrates. Having been Grey-Thompson Student Manager from the very start (12 years), then Coe House Student Manager for a year, I am now working with Year 9 students and will be seeing them through to their GCSE's. I have the privilege of working alongside Mrs Owusu to endeavour to make sure all our students reach their full potential and give themselves the best possible opportunities in the future. May I wish all our students and families a lovely summer, keep safe and see you in September.



To see our term dates for 2017/18, please click on the following link:

<http://www.theharefieldacademy.org/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=32>

## End of Year Letter to Parents and Carers from Headteacher, Tash Moriarty

A copy of the Headteacher's end of year letter to Parents and Carers can be found on The Harefield Academy's website or by clicking on the following link;

<http://www.theharefieldacademy.org/page/?title=Letters+from+The+Academy+2016%2D2017&pid=185>



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### December

Fri 8th - Local Senior Citizens' Party

Fri 15th - End of Term

We will be holding 2 information evenings in **September** which are open to all parents. These are opportunities to share key information with parents regarding a range of school systems including:

Assessment  
Homework  
Reports  
Behaviour  
Attendance  
ParentPay  
Exams  
Intervention

The event will be separated for Key Stages and will take place on the following days:

Key Stage 3 - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 6pm in the Theatre

Key Stage 4 - 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017 6pm in the Theatre

Key Stage 5 - 13<sup>th</sup> September 2017 6pm in the Circle Room

Please keep these dates free as it provides a great opportunity to ask questions and to ensure effective home school communication about matters that enhance your son's/daughter's learning experience.

**Our mailing address is:**

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