

# CA Update



21 September 2015

## Message from the Principal

Welcome back to this new year at Chelsea Academy. I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable holiday and are ready to support your son or daughter in this new academic year. You will notice that we now have a new newsletter which is linked to our website. If you haven't already done so please have a look at the new site. Specific things to mention are the parent portal which has all the information parents need at the click of a button. Please also make sure that you subscribe to the academy calendar; this will automatically update and remind you about a range of activities at Chelsea Academy.

We have had a summer of celebration at Chelsea Academy; not only were our A2 and AS levels the best we have ever had but we have also had the most improved attendance across all the schools in the Tri-Borough. Many thanks to all the students, parents and staff for their hard work in achieving this. Our GCSE results were also really strong with almost all subject areas improving on last year. Our headline figure is comparable to last year which is pleasing, considering many local schools have seen a significant drop in their results.

Congratulations to all the year 11, 12 and 13 students who did so well.

Over the past three weeks we have been reminding the students that we are raising the bar in terms of punctuality, behaviour, uniform and academic standards. I am pleased to say that the whole academy feels fantastic with students engaged in learning and taking pride in how they look. Please support us in ensuring that your son or daughter is in school on time and wearing the correct uniform. Thanks to everyone who attended our Awards event on Thursday, it was a wonderful celebration of some of our students' successes from last year. More details and some photos will be shared on our website soon.

Finally a reminder that the Academy does not have room for parental parking in the surrounding streets. Parking and waiting illegally in the streets near the student exit can put pedestrian students in danger as well as making things difficult for our neighbours. Please can I remind you to encourage your children to take public transport whenever possible and to avoid parking illegally at the start and end of the school day.

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## Reflection



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had a great summer break and that you are all having a

good start to the new term.

The upcoming ethos themes for us all to reflect on and discuss are:

**21/09 – 25/09 – Winning Words (Communication)**

The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (Proverbs 18:21)

Key Question: *Why is it important to think about the words we say?*

**28/09 – 02/10 – Tried Tested and Proven (Faithfulness)**

I will sing of the Lord's great love for ever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations. (Psalm 89:1)

Key Question: *Is faithfulness one of my characteristics?*

Our thoughts and prayers are particularly with our new students as they settle into life at the academy. Please feel free to contact me anytime via email on [tim.richards@chelsea-academy.org](mailto:tim.richards@chelsea-academy.org). I also offer a chaplaincy drop in service if you would like to chat and/or pray with me. Half hour slots are available throughout the day so please contact me if you are interested.

With every blessings,

Tim Richards  
Academy Chaplain

## The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE)



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is the world's leading youth achievement award, giving millions of 14 to 24-year-olds the opportunity to be the very best they can be.

At Chelsea Academy the number of students participating to this award is growing and this year in excess of 45 students enjoyed camping and hiking in the hills of Surrey and East Grinstead. This month, Year 10 students will be invited to register for the Bronze Award and Year 12 students for the Silver Award. We can't wait to see which students are ready to challenge themselves, gain new skills and enhance their CVs/university applications. Time to get involved and go the extra mile!

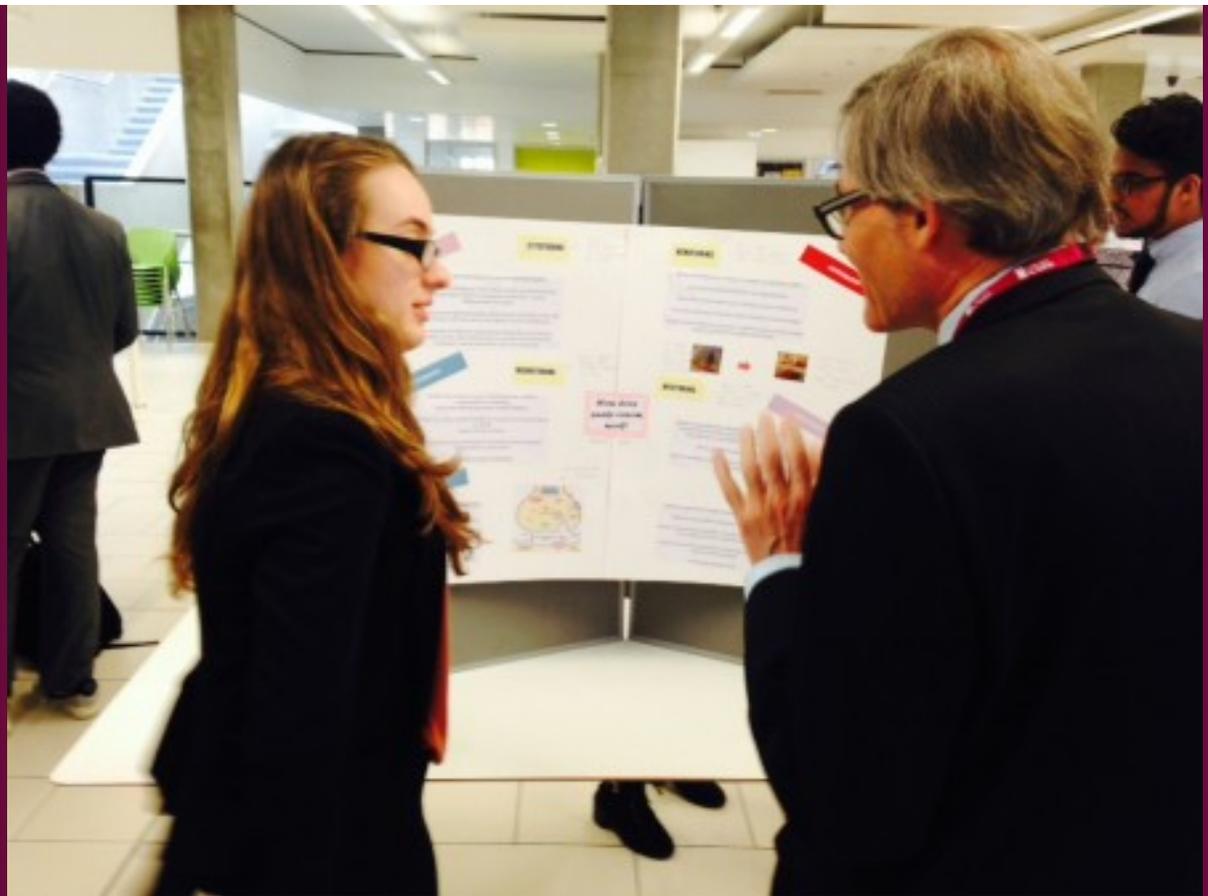
Letters will be sent home next week. Speak to Miss Homer for more details.

**I'm a Scientist, Get Me Out Of Here!**



In June every Year 8 Science class was involved in a project called 'I'm a Scientist, Get Me Out Of Here', where they took part in online discussions with real scientists. They asked questions about the scientists' research, discussed general science ideas and found out more about what it's like to be a professional scientist. The aim of the project was to help our young students to see the relevance of the science they learn in lessons and to inspire them to consider science-related career paths. The students really enjoyed the online discussions and asked some brilliant questions. As a Science Specialist academy we think this is a fantastic opportunity and the project will continue to run at Chelsea Academy several times a year.

## Summer Science Exhibition



On Wednesday 8th July, we hosted the 4th annual Chelsea Summer Science Exhibition, with our Year 12 scientists presenting their science projects. At the start of the Summer, students were invited to choose a scientific question to answer, and then carried out their own research and literature reviews to come to a conclusion. Topics ranged from quantum computers, and the possibility of time travel, to why we experience “brain freeze” after eating something cold. Yet again we were delighted with the high quality of the work presented on the evening.

## Art and Science Enrichment Trip to the Courtauld



The Art and Science enrichment visited the Courtauld Gallery in Somerset House for a tour and arts and material workshop, looking in depth at how works have been preserved and conserved. Students have continued the project in the Academy with a visit from Courtauld Gallery staff to continue the investigation into traditional arts materials.

## E series Battersea Park



On 27th June, Battersea Park was closed to the public to host the FIA Formula E London ePrix, and the Chelsea Academy Race Team (C.A.R.T.) were invited along to race and given some free tickets for friends and family. This was after a successful qualifying day at Goodwood a few weeks previously. It was a fantastic day out, with the students racing on the ePrix full race track midafternoon. Maryam was the selected driver, and was able to overtake two other teams to get Chelsea a 4th place finish. Well done Team Chelsea, and special thanks to Mr Gilchrist for all the extra time at weekends this year.

## Supporting science education at local primary schools



Chelsea Academy's specialism is 'The Sciences' and as such we work hard to support science education in the local community. On Wednesday 8th July science teachers from Chelsea Academy hosted a 'Primary Science' workshop for local primary school teachers, focusing on best practice in teaching new topics in the primary science curriculum, such as evolution, and on how Chelsea Academy can support primary school science through events, ongoing projects and resources. These training sessions run several times a year and are a valuable way to maintain links with local schools.

## Kew Gardens Trip



On the 7th July, all of our year 7 students visited the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. Students spent time in the iconic glasshouses where they learned how tropical plants are adapted to their environment, as well as visiting the kitchen garden where they could appreciate the range of plants that are grown for food. The highlight of the day, for many of the students, was the chance to enjoy the views of the gardens and beyond from the 18m high treetop walkway.

## Serbia Maths Competition

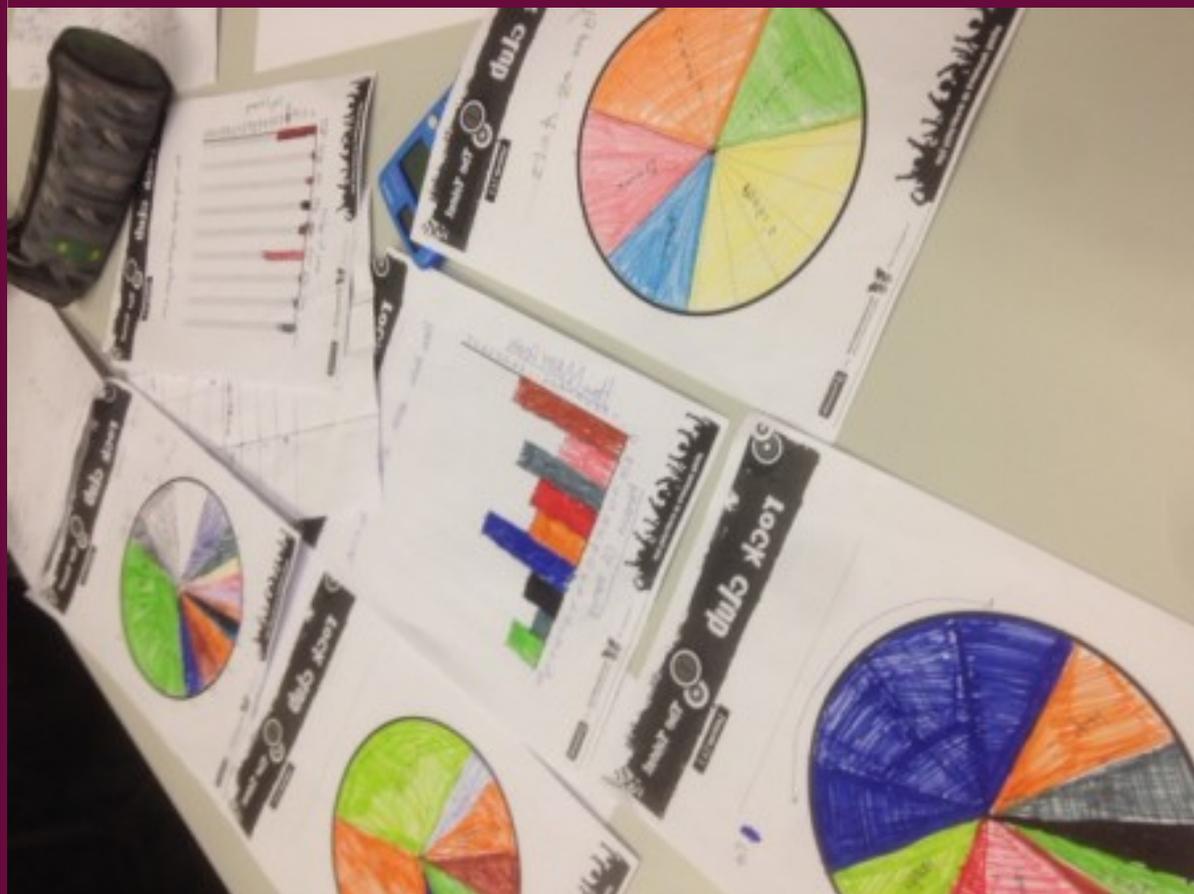


On 22nd July, 8 students and 2 teachers made their way to Belgrade, Serbia where the annual Mathematical Grammar School Cup was to commence. On the first day we walked around and visited my personal favourite, Kalemegdan; we also prepared for the first day of competition which was Mathematics. After the opening ceremony, the maths competition had us hard at work. The results came in later that day and our team had done well.

That evening was spent with the group mentors having a physics preparation session for the competition the following day. The school had planned an excursion to a place called Avala near Belgrade where there is a satellite tower, at the top of which is a stunning view of Belgrade. The final day of competition was in informatics where a few of the team members had tried their hand at new programming languages.

Throughout the week the team had many outings planned, doing different activities. By the end of the week the team had three medals, Lucas Cruz with a bronze in Mathematics and Tarik Ourida with a bronze in Mathematics and Physics. The team had made many international friendships and immersed themselves in something new, gaining different knowledge and making friendships that will last forever.

## The Rock Club



To show that Maths isn't all numbers and algebra, year 7 students took part in 'The Rock Club' for a day on Wednesday 8th July. This is a workshop run by The Transformation Trust where students take on the role of largescale event organisers and are tasked with running a concert for 10,000 people at Wembley Arena. From managing and designing stage layouts to working out lengths of music sets, the students immersed themselves in an action packed day full of different activities to show that Maths really does exist in the real world!

## CERN trip



14 Sixth Form students visited CERN to learn about the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), the largest physics experiment and machine in the world. Over 12,000 engineers and scientists work on the particle physics experiments which recreate what the universe was like less than a billionth of a second after the Big Bang. They were given a lecture by Mario, a researcher from UCL, on the basics of accelerators and elementary particles. They also visited the control centre where the Collider is run and then the Superconducting Magnet Centre where they learnt how the magnets that control the beam are made.

After a busy morning they had lunch at the CERN restaurant where they merged in well with all the PhD students! It was an amazing opportunity to visit the world's largest nuclear Physics research facility and to meet a range of scientists with different specialisms working together to answer the key questions of life: who are we? Where did we come from? Where are we going?



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