



Westminster Academy short-listed for Active Westminster Award

This November is the Active Westminster Awards ceremony at Lords Cricket ground, and the school has been shortlisted for the Active School Award. The school was nominated by the community, and judges at Westminster City Council have recognised the efforts of the Academy by selecting the school for the short-list. Thanks to the efforts of the PE team and a number of other active staff, we recognise that we are truly an active school and hope to win the prestigious award.

Incidentally, PE Teacher Ms Pond has also been short-listed for an Active Westminster Award. This is due to her commitment to community activity and recognising her role in captaining the Great Britain Football team at the recent World Students Games.



This has been a very successful twelve months for the Academy, being recognised for having an unsung hero by the Daily Telegraph and short-listed for outstanding provision for sport by the Times Educational Supplement. It is the perfect way to prepare for the upcoming Olympic year.

Ms Bora's Message

I would like to begin this newsletter by thanking all students for the money raised on non-uniform day, especially as we heard yesterday of yet another earthquake in Turkey; we raised £575.00 in total.

I am also pleased to announce our first "Love Food, Hate Waste" workshop for parents which will be held on Thursday 24th November from 4pm–6pm in the Academy's Food Room; I look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, as well as my weekly reminder that ALL students should be reading, revising and practising questions (especially maths!) in addition to completing homework, I would like to remind parents about keeping their children safe. The police have recommended all students to register valuables on www.immobilise.com which is the official website the police use to recover stolen property. They have also advised strongly that all possessions such as bikes /phones are security marked.



Our school is very excited to have been selected as a Get Set school and, as a result, have the opportunity to partake in some of the exciting events leading up to the 2012 Olympic games.

Recently, Westminster Academy students were invited to attend the London Get Set Archery Event. Archers from around the world competed in a variety of categories; male and female, individual and team events as our students looked on. Despite chilly weather conditions in the stands the students were able to enjoy a front row view of the competition, while learning the rules and history of a new sport. All involved enjoyed a day of bows, arrows and bulls!

Update on Key Stage 3 Humanities



In Key Stage 3 Humanities lessons during term one, we have been learning about the role of religion in history. This was done through focusing on two case studies - the impact of the Crusades on Europe and the Middle East, as well as the main causes behind the breakout of the English Civil War. As part of learning about medieval religion, some Year 8 students had the chance to literally experience how much power the church held over people's every day lives during the middle ages. Students were asked to create their

own board games which identified the power of the church. What the games looked like and how they would be played was entirely up to them.

The only criteria set by their teacher, Mr. Char-torizhky, was that they would have to involve a set of cards - also created by themselves - in their game. The cards would illustrate the areas of people's lives controlled by the church - fun, punishment and power. The cards had to be based on statements explaining how the Church controlled almost every single aspect of people's lives in both positive and negative ways. On the last lesson of term, students brought in their board games and had the chance to play each other's. They then voted on which games were the best.

The results were extremely impressive. The cards created were all extremely witty and informative. What's more, the students got to learn a staggering amount about the medieval church and religion in Europe in a new and innovative way.

Ms. Fayers advises Year 9 students on how to make the most of this year

You are about to embark on a brand new journey of self-development. In this year, you are going to learn and discover hidden treasures that have been locked inside of you, if you make the decision to embrace the tuition that you are about to receive. These treasures are namely the art of personal leadership; the ability to take charge of your life and step up to a new level. You invest many hours in your education. It's time to ask yourself how you can make that investment more worthwhile. Where do you want to be at the end of this academic year and at the end of your schooling in three years? It will come around sooner than you think.

If you want to get ahead in life and embrace that career that you have been dreaming of, then this year is your opportunity to begin preparing for the giant leap into the unknown. If you want to be ready for what lies ahead of you, you need to immerse yourself in your subjects this year. The

only way to do that will be to take responsibility for your own learning and to respect the peers that you share the classroom with since they also want that dream job when they finish school. Remember that you are in charge of your own development, your grades and your value to future employers.

Begin this term by ensuring that for each lesson, you are sufficiently prepared with not only the obvious materials such as a full pencil case and exercise books but more importantly a mind that is ready and willing to get the grades that you need to eventually launch you into that career that will make your friends and peers green with envy. It is time to step up and take hold of what life can offer you and remember that your teachers are on your side and want to help you to develop the x-factor that will make employers want to pay you what you are worth. Let's make this the best year yet!