



## Soumaya wins The Regional Final of The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge

Soumaya Difallah has triumphed at The Jack Petchey Speak Out Challenge Regional Final coming first in this public speaking competition against students from some of the best schools in the area. She was selected by a prestigious judging panel which included Karen Buck, MP and James Hanning Deputy Editor of the Independent. Soumaya won an iPod touch and a trophy.

Soumaya gave a very moving speech entitled "Neverland", which started by explaining how Peter Pan tells us to never say goodbye, because goodbye means forgetting. She talked about how she has often had to move home in her life, and she questioned why we put "good" before "bye", when it means going away from the people we love. She then moved on to the focus of her speech; why photography is her "Neverland", where memories live on in their purest form, and challenged the audience to decide what their Neverland was.

Soumaya was competing against students from Cardinal Vaughan, Grey Coats Hospital, St Marylebone, St Georges, QK, Paddington Academy, Holland Park, St Augustine's and Pimlico Academy. Soumaya now finds out in January if she will go onto the National Final and compete against the winners from every other region in the country.

## Teaching and Learning Corner

### Gathering Student Feedback

Up to now, the teachers have been working on including you more in learning through:

**GROUP WORK**

**PAIR WORK**

**USE OF QUESTIONING**

They have also been creating as many opportunities in lessons for a dialogue with you about Teaching and Learning through Assessment for Learning (assessment to help you learn by providing you feedback regularly both in lessons and through marking which identifies next steps. Also, by asking you to self-assess more and assess learning of others- peer assess).

Equally important has been to consult you, the students, more about T&L in the classroom. The benefits of gathering students' feedback include raised attainment of all students in a subject, change in students' attitudes to learning, encouraging students to think more critically and reflectively and it also helps students to evaluate their own learning.

## Maths Quiz Winner



Gentiana Hashani was the winner this week. She correctly calculated that there were thirteen birds and three dogs in the cage. She won £2.

The new maths quiz question goes on the display on Monday and students need to have their answer to Ms Palmer in 205 by the end of the school day on Friday.

## Message from Ms Bora

Last week, I pleaded with parents to help us prepare and equip students to be ready for school as well as promoting reading, revising and practising questions (especially maths).

On Monday this week, students in Years 7 to 11 were given a proof copy of their school photo to take home to show you and for you to see if you would like to buy the school photo as a memory. These delightful photos were professionally taken by the Midland Photographic Company earlier this year.

To buy your child's photo, please visit [www.midphoto.co.uk](http://www.midphoto.co.uk) or call 0121 478 2609; you will need the unique access code from the proof copy of the photo given to your child by their tutor.

All students in Year 7 to Year 11 will be given a new ID card with their new photo on, ready for the start of the new term in January, if they hand in their old card when asked. A reminder that the ID card and lanyard are part of our uniform.



### Performing Arts Christmas Show

Our amazing Performing Arts students will be performing a range of dance, music and drama pieces on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December in the Market Place from 4.30pm. Students and parents can purchase tickets from Reception or at the door, at the price of £2 for adults and £1 for students.



### Mosaic Enterprise Challenge and trip to M&S

By Suheil Khaled Abdel Aziz Rodriguez  
Recently WA students were given the opportunity to participate in the Mosaic Enterprise Challenge.

When we arrived, we were introduced to our mentors. After the introduction we had help from our mentor to complete our first task which was starting up our own company and designing a car to sell.

But it wasn't that easy; we had a budget of a hundred million pounds. We had three choices; the best choices were always expensive and the ones which were not so good were affordable. Overall I found it fun and challenging. It was time well spent and helped to develop my entrepreneurial skills.

By Mariam Al-Kayssi

Mosaic is all about business and the community. Mosaic mentors are volunteers and they show us how business works and how it affects our community. If you attend the Mosaic Club you learn lots of skills and get an inside view of how businesses are run. You also get to meet new people and go on fun trips! Speaking of trips, I recently went on a trip to Marks & Spencers and the full story of my trip will be in the newsletter that comes out on the first week after the holiday.

### Year 10 Enterprise Event

The prestigious global management firm Bain & Company is making a special trip to WA to hold interview workshops for all Year 10 students on Thursday 15 December 2011.

Parent Drop in every Friday 9.10-10.10 am supporting families with education, health, housing and more. In Sky Dining on the 3rd floor. Very good coffee is served along with nice cakes.