



## Westminster Academy celebrates great results



Westminster Academy IB students achieved an impressive average of 30 points this year, the equivalent of three A\* grades at A Level. This is an improvement of 20% over last year's results. Overall, the students at Westminster Academy achieved an average of 781 points, the equivalent of grades AAB



at A Level, with 100% pass rate and 76% of students achieving A\*-C grades.

Year 11 GCSE results were also good; the percentage of students achieving five or more GCSEs at grade C or above rose to 81% this year.

## Olympic Champions visit The Academy Games



WA students enjoyed an action packed Academy Games on the last day of school. Every student took part in three different sports sessions cheered on by four Olympic athletes; Montell Douglas (sprinter), Phillis Agbo (heptathlon), Hannah Beharry (boxing) and Zara Hohn (hurdles).

Every student earned points for their House each time they came top in their session. As points mounted up throughout the day, the tension also mounted as students sweated to try to get the House to the top of the league table. Red House was the winning House this year.

## Ms Bora's message

I would like to welcome back students, staff, parents and our community to what has been an absolutely fantastic start to the new academic year. I am very proud of our examinations results and the wonderful staff at the Academy who have worked tirelessly with the students to achieve these. I am also delighted to announce that we are completely full in Year 7 with a long waiting list.

As I have said before, there is always room for improvement. We still have too many students who think that homework is just pieces of paper to complete for the next day rather than realising the amount of reading, revision and question practice necessary to secure the highest grades. Please remind your children of our expectations regarding revising from their CGP guides and reading.

Finally, our focus for the year is maths and numeracy. This year, nearly 70% of students achieved a C or above in their GCSE English but a lower percentage succeeded in maths. I am urging parents to ensure all students are experts in basic numeracy such as times tables, fractions, decimals, percentages etc. as a minimum—I am sure of your support!

I look forward to a tremendous year ahead...

## WA Gifted and Talented Programme



Dylan Kawende, Year 10, receives his certificate for winning his creative thinking activity at the Warwick University Mind Games Event.

Gifted and Talented has got off to an excellent start this term with a whole host of extra - curricular activities being planned for the coming year, which will give students the opportunity to broaden their minds, widen their social circles and gain new skills.

Year 10 students are working away on their application forms for the University of Central London 'Saturday school' - a prestigious programme of taster activities, designed to give the students insight into various disciplines such as law, medicine, business and science. Last year, ten WA students were accepted into this programme and really enjoyed the amazing Saturday programme that UCL was able to create for them; they feedback from those who attended the Saturday school was that it really helped them zoom ahead in their lessons. We are keeping our fingers crossed for all who are applying! The SHINE Saturday school programme starts in November, so we will be shortly encouraging students to sign up for this. As with last year, there will be many trips, half term schools and university taster days on offer so watch this space for further news!

We are also working with your teachers to ensure your lessons continue to be stretching and engaging, so work hard and prosper!

## Year 8 students go on a Design Quest



Year 8 art students took part in the Design Quest project run by the Princes' Foundation for Children and the Arts and the Historic Royal Palaces last term.

The students went to see Kensington Palace and met the curator who works in the Royal Dress collection there. They also worked with a professional designer to design and create a jacket or a dress out of recycled material. Their designs were presented to the Duchess of Cornwall in a glamorous fashion show at The Banqueting House.

## Internships

Year 10 internships begin Friday 16 September 2011. All Year 10 students will begin their internships this week. This placement will last until December 2011 and will be an important event for all our students. WA Internee's will learn the following skills:

1. Communication and adaptability
2. Team work
3. Positive attitude
4. Independence, dependability, responsibility
5. Time keeping
6. Management, a willingness to grow and learn
7. Professionalism, honesty and integrity
8. Customer services
9. Confidence
10. Strong work ethic