

## WA students have their work published!

During the holidays, a group of dedicated students took part in the White Water Writers Camp: a collaborative writing project with the aim of producing a novel in a week. The students arrived on the first day tense with excitement and nervous energy; they were met with many challenges as they planned, wrote and proof-read their book but rose to each of them with marked aplomb. They worked tirelessly throughout the week and have been rewarded with a book of which they can be incredibly proud.

The students involved were: Anisa Ali, Clelia Vigorelli, Elisa Crescenzo, Elizabeth Alavidze, Fariooz Ameer, Juned Abdul-Mahdud, Kennesha Peltier-Mignott, Marjan Abdullahi, Nosa Ogiemudia, Saidya Begum, Salma Abdelghafar and Shakira Griffiths. The project was run by Candice Bedford and Joe Reddington and the book, entitled 'The Sound of Madness' and published under the name 'Tim Cooks', is entirely the work of our talented students.

'The Sound of Madness' is now available to buy on Amazon here: <http://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/BOOYNU4BR6>. Readers have already started leaving reviews, with one reader commenting, "It's amazing



*how a group of children can write such a great story in such a short amount of time! 5 stars."* For an exclusive preview of the story, read on!

*The family lived in a small house in central London. It was quite old and there were a few cracks here and there; they'd lived there for nearly sixteen years. They also had a big shopping centre near their house called Lambeth's Shopping Centre. They used to go there to shop for everyday things, like everyday people. . .*

*The mother, Shahira Hemmings, had blond hair and green eyes. She was very beautiful and her bones weren't like they were just there to hold her up, but to prove a point.*

Article by Mr Payne, Teacher of English

## Year 10s show Skill! at Microsoft



Last term, Business and Enterprise students were exposed to the working world and developed a number of enterprise skills including creativity, presentation and confidence on the Skill! trip to Microsoft.

The event was a great success and our students flew the flag high for WA. They were spoken of highly by Patrick Phillpott (founder of Visionpath, which runs the Skill! Programme) - so much so that they were carefully selected from amongst the other schools to have an interview with Patrick himself. Patrick has also selected our school to be part of the new work experience programme he is developing!

The event was in the form of a competition where students devised and pitched big ideas. All students were competing for the grand prize of a £20 gift voucher each. The competition heated up as ideas were all carefully thought out and projects were presented. The judging was tense and the atmosphere was amazing when the winners were called out: 'WA - Rama, Fiona, Diellza, Aisa, Jennifer, Arianne!' I overheard one teacher close by tell another, "That's Westminster Academy, they won last time and they've won again this time!" What can I say; WA keep on winning!

Well done to our victorious competitors!

By Mr Uddin, Curriculum Coordinator - Business and Enterprise

## Message from the Principal, Ms Bora

We have been receiving information all week to reassure us that the Academy is still on track for maintaining its **Outstanding** status. I agree fully with comments from Ofsted's Chief HMI, Sir Michael Wilshaw, about the new framework. I was also thrilled to see



that the curriculum offered at the Academy, comprising English, maths, science, history/geography and languages, together with a myriad of other enriching lessons, is highly rated by the Secretary of State. So, all that's left is for us all to continue **reading, revising and practising questions!**

## Grammar Objectives of the Week: **Westbourne Festival powered can, could and be able to by Sixth Form volunteers**

We use *can*, *could* and *be able to* when talking about ability. The differences between these phrases can be quite subtle and it is often a question of what sounds right. I've outlined here some guidelines to help when you're faced with a choice.

We use *can* when talking about something happening as we speak: "Watch mum; I **can** stand on one leg!" We also use *can* when the meaning is 'know how to': "**Can** you cook?" However, if we're talking about a specific achievement (rather than a general ability) we usually use *be able to* rather than *can* or *could*. For example, "She swam strongly and **was able to** cross the river easily, even though it was swollen by the heavy rain." This sentence refers to a specific achievement and is subtly different from "She swam strongly and **could** cross the river easily." This refers to a general ability.

A further difference can be seen when comparing the following two sentences, both of which show possibility. "We **can** stay with Jim in Oslo": this means that we will be able to stay with Jim. On the other hand, "We **could** stay with Jim in Oslo" means that it's possible (if he's there). The use of *could* therefore indicates that something is less likely or that there is some doubt about it. Finally, we also use *can* or *could* to show general permission (but not to talk about permission for one particular past action): "I **could** always stay up late to read - my parents didn't mind at all."

I do hope this has shed some light on some everyday phrases and will help you become more aware of the language you are using. As with all of our grammar objectives, the key is to be brave enough to seek advice when necessary.

By Mr Harris, Assistant Senior Leader - English

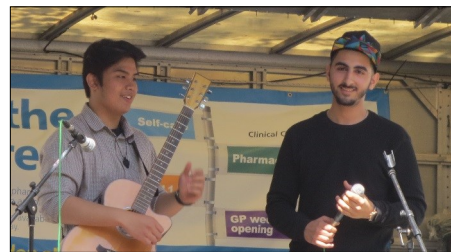
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June saw the Westbourne Festival take place in beautiful sunshine. The festival is an annual event for Westbourne residents, and WA has always worked closely with the organisers. This year was no exception; Ashleigh Williams and Roy Prasetyo have been involved in planning the event since the start of the year. On the day, WA provided 15 Sixth Form volunteers who gave up their Sunday to help promote the Westbourne Forum, run the raffle, help set up and tidy away the stands, direct guests, perform live music, police the bouncy castle - and more besides!



Volunteering is a key part of our Sixth Form, and all of our students regularly give up their time to help the community, either in school or locally. I was very impressed by the enthusiasm with which students attacked their tasks, even when it came to picking up litter at the end! Though some of them were a little shy at first, they all grew in confidence as the afternoon progressed, and the organisers were very impressed and grateful for their help.

We are already looking forward to next year!

Mr Farnbrough, Senior Leader - Sixth Form



### What's on:

**FREE IT classes for parents** - Thursdays 4 - 6pm; WA Library

**FREE Art classes for parents and community**

**FREE Adult English classes** - every Wednesday

**To express interest in any of the above, please email Mr Gothard: AGothard@westminsteracademy.biz**

Year 12 Parents' Evening - Wednesday 24 June

Year 6 Induction Day - Friday 26 June

Year 8 Parents' Evening - Wednesday 8 July

Science Fair - Wednesday 15 July

Welcome to the

### Church Street Library Community Garden

**Join our Gardening Project**

Enjoy planting and gardening with tea and biscuits

11am-12.30pm this Friday and every Friday

Any experience level welcome; you can learn as you grow!

The garden needs regular watering, weeding and tidying as well as planting, so please speak to a member of staff to get involved.

**Church Street Library - 67 Church Street - NW8 8EU**

**Mike: 07944 280 149 - info@letsgoletsgrow.com**

