

Oxbridge application preparation at UCS



Westminster Academy's Oxbridge applicants were given a generous opportunity to attend preparation sessions at our partner school, University College School, for their respective courses. Whilst there, we were given support for the application process as well as an insight into the courses themselves. I attended a session on preparing for a physical geography interview at Oxford, to understand the nature of it and to anticipate the kind of questions that may be asked, which in the case of geography, could be to interpret a picture and make an educated guess about its geographical location. Another session mimicked a university seminar, where I was invited to discuss neo-liberal policies in development anthropology with other geographers who were as enthusiastic about the subject as I am. Overall, it is an extremely helpful experience on the road to university.



By Zakri Zulkurnain, Year 13

Secondary application deadline: Friday 31st October

Recently WA has enjoyed welcoming some friendly new faces to the Academy on its Open Days for Year 6 students and their families. We have had lots of positive feedback from families who have particularly liked seeing the school in action during Open Mornings, learning about Period 5 activities, daily homework, G&T programmes, the strict behaviour policy, the ways in which WA is preparing students for the new tougher exams, as well as the opportunities provided to help develop well-rounded young people.

Prospective parents have also praised our excellent team of student ambassadors who helped guide them and answer questions. We would like to say a huge thank you to all of these students plus the Sixth Formers and staff who have contributed to the Open Events.



The deadline for Year 7 applications is October 31st. For anyone who needs assistance with the electronic applications, WA is offering drop-in sessions to support parents with this on Thursday 23rd October 4-6pm and Thursday 30th October 10-4pm. For more details, please contact Admissions: nnel@westminsteracademy.biz Please note, WA does not have a supplementary form for Year 6 into Year 7 applications.



History of Art taster at Latymer



Earlier this term, gifted and talented art students were invited to go to Latymer School for a History of Art taster day.

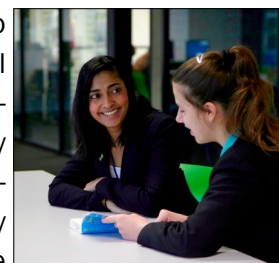
We spent the whole day at the school and were also treated to lunch. We attended three very interesting sessions with different teachers on: analysing symbols in artwork, history of art, and the impact of artwork on perceptions.

Thank you to Latymer and Miss Coleman for organising this - we all enjoyed the experience.

By Nabil Allaoui, Year 11

Message from the Principal, Ms Bora

What a wonderful end to our first term! I am still recovering from the excitement of seeing so many students perform so brilliantly and professionally at the Shakespeare Schools' Festival. I was worried about how they would manage to learn all their lines as well as **reading, revising and practising questions** but they did! I also enjoyed the Community Food Day and look forward to more use by parents of the Parent Committee next term. Please encourage your children to complete their holiday homework but also to participate in extra-curricular activities with some relaxation. Enjoy the holiday!



Community Food Day

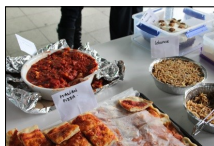


Last week the WA community gathered to exchange culinary secrets for Community Food Day. This year's event was a great success; staff, parents and community members shared

food from all over the world and were even treated to a musical accompaniment



by the school choir. A huge thank you to everyone who attended and brought along a dish to share.

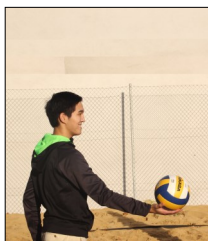


By Mr Gothard, Curriculum Coordinator Maths

Still hungry? Why not pop along to our Tea and Cake Break tomorrow (Friday 24 October) to raise money for Epilepsy in Action, 10-11am!



A tale of two titans



*On Friday 14th October last week,
On damp golden sands, two titans would meet*

They battled and struggled, in a fierce and fast game

And here with the story; our own Mr Payne

They took to the court with a glint in their eyes,
The teachers their victims, glory their prize.
They took off their shoes and walked out on the sand
And prepared to smack a ball over a net with their hands.

They limbered up, practiced, war ready to wage
Until Bjelica stepped onto the stage.

"Grit!" was the shout. Fierce were the calls.

Mr Farmbrough was ready to sacrifice all.

A dig. A set. A spike and a cheer:

The Sixth Formers' glints turned to eyes full of fear.

One game apiece was the score after two,

Bjelica left: the kids thought it was through.

They grinned and they taunted; they played a good game

But by weakness were haunted and their reckoning came.

Phillips was serving: a force to be feared.

The teachers' points silenced the Sixth Formers' cheers.

When the score was announced, Ameer hid his face

And the students departed in shame and disgrace.

"Victory! Victory!" The teachers exclaimed;

The winners of volleyball, in glory, again.



What's on

FREE 'HANDS ON' MAKER WORKSHOPS: Saturday 1st November, 10.30am – 4.30pm, Church Street Triangle, NW8

Make it Happen is running a day of workshops on the theme of 'hands on' making, as part of our research developing Westminster's Enterprise Programme. **The day is a mix of fixing, making, up-cycling, exploring, working, imagining and doing!**

Future enterprise visionaries can start to think about how they could transfer their 'hands on' skills into business 'start up' ideas. There'll be makers ranging from tech enthusiasts to craftspeople, home-makers, scientists, growers and garage tinkerers. The day will provide that rare opportunity to learn how to fix and up-cycle your electronics, gadgets and small electronic items. **Bring along your computers, smart phones, irons, toasters, radios and bikes** and get help from the popular tech whizz kids from the Restart Project (<http://therestartproject.org/>).

If your group, or a group you know, would like to book a dedicated slot, please let us know so that we can manage numbers. We're in a shop on Church Street triangle so space is limited.

See more at www.youcanmakeithappen.co.uk

BE INSPIRED
Community Fun
and Consultation Day

SATURDAY 25th OCTOBER 2014
12.00pm - 4.00pm

EVERYONE WELCOME

St Mary Magdalene Church
Rowington Close Paddington London W2 5TF

BE INSPIRED
at St Mary Magdalene Church
SATURDAY 25th OCTOBER

This will be a day for the whole community to come together to help shape the future of the most historic building in our area. See the architect's model of the new Heritage Wing. Help us make it central to our community life by giving your views on the proposals.

- MUSIC & DANCE
- FREE FOOD & REFRESHMENTS
- FREE FACE PAINTING & HENNA ART
- FREE FAMILY LEARNING - MAKE AND TAKE WORKSHOP

Make your own decorative light inspired by the tiles and patterns in the building.

TELL US :

- what activities you want to take place here
- what you want to know about the history of Paddington and its communities

مرحبا بالكل في يوم المرح والتشاور للجميع
Plans are afoot to open a new heritage and arts centre of national quality here in Paddington. The centre, at St Mary Magdalene Church, will be for all communities and cultures.

Come along and tell us what you think about our plans. Meet the architects and activity planners and enjoy arts and activities for all the family.

Free food and refreshments!



And you are also invited to: Westminster Forum Launch and Elections Saturday 15th November 2.00pm - 5.00pm Above: Centre, 260 Harrow Road, W2 1LS

More info: paul@pdt.org.uk 020 3214 3120

PDT Registered Charity Number: 1080883



The church is not currently wheelchair accessible. We will therefore be holding another consultation event soon with disabled access. Please email or phone for more details.

FREE IT classes for parents

FREE Art classes for parents and community

FREE 'Parent Gym' for parents to support students to learn faster, do better and be happier

FREE Adult English classes - every Wednesday 1-3pm

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

Tea and Cake Break - Friday 24 October 10-11am

End of Term 1 - Friday 24 October

Staff INSET - Monday 3rd - Tuesday 4th November

Term 2 begins - Wednesday 5th November

Progress Review Day - Thursday 13 November