



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

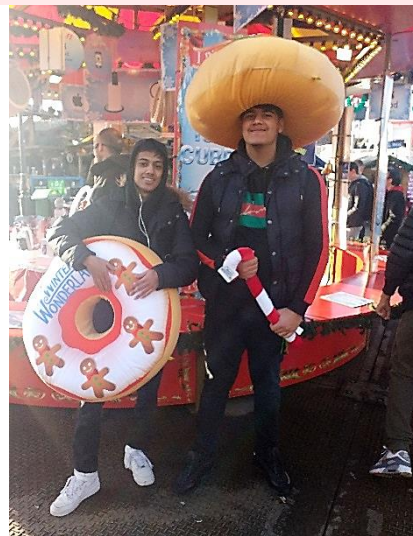
Week Commencing 23rd December 2019



Ethos statement: We believe that through individual commitment, self discipline, integrity and respect for others, we inspire everyone to learn.

Winter Wonderland – Ms Hodgson

On Wednesday 11th December, the Year 12 Travel and Tourism students went on a trip to Winter Wonderland, Hyde Park. This is one of the biggest and most well-attended events in the UK, attracting over 3 million visitors a year. The students spent the day enjoying the festive activities including ice skating, circus shows, an observation wheel and a huge Christmas market. They also enjoyed a variety of delicious cuisines at the street food markets. It was an excellent day and it has put us all in the Christmas spirit.



The Shard – Ms Hodgson

On Friday 22nd November, the Year 12 Travel and Tourism students spent the morning at the Shard. They had the opportunity to see London's most iconic tourist attractions at 244m high. The students started their journey in a high-speed lift taking them from level 1 to 68 in sixty seconds. They then went up to level 72 to the air sky deck where they took in the atmosphere and sounds of our amazing city. Some major attractions they saw included the Tower of London, the London Eye, Big Ben, Tower Bridge and the River Thames. Student's behaved excellently and all had a wonderful day!



ZSL London Zoo – Ms Hodgson

On Thursday 28th November, the Year 13 Travel and Tourism students enjoyed the day at London Zoo. They saw a variety of animals including penguins, lions, gorillas, tigers, lizards and butterflies. They also gained an insight into the Zoo's vision of addressing conservation challenges and their efforts to protect habitats in the future. They all behaved exceptionally well and had a wonderful day out.



Spotlight – Ms Risolino



Spotlight, the Academy's winter dance showcase was a huge success this year. For the first time ever tickets were sold out before opening night and we had guests queuing up to see if they could get a spot in the audience. The total number of audience members hit record numbers at 95. The Year 12 BTEC level 3 dancers kicked off the show with their first dance of the night. This was a combination of students' own choreography and repertoire that had been taught to them.

The performance was for their assessment for unit 38, dance performance. The Year 9 BTEC tech dancers then performed their first ever piece together as the largest BTEC dance collective we have had. The ensemble is made up of 26 dancers who all worked incredibly hard in lessons and rehearsals as they prepared for their debut performance. This was again a combination of students' own work and repertoire that was taught to them. We had two incredible solo pieces from Jaime McGuinness and Eachani Shaw-Grant, who showcased their unique dance skills with their own fabulous choreography.

The Year 10 BTEC tech dancers performed their assessed piece for component 2 of their BTEC tech award. The students had to learn professional repertoire to show that they can develop and apply dance skills to execute professional choreography. The piece was originally performed by Boy Blue, a British hip hop dance company. The piece was choreographed by Kenrick Sandy and originally commissioned by Sky Arts, but we obviously put a Southfields spin on the original repertoire!

Our youngest dancers in the show were Kiret, Brigid, Ashleigh, Viviana, Mia and Nezaki who choreographed a collection of solos and duets at dance club on Tuesdays, completing the work with an ensemble section that they had learnt. We also had another group piece choreographed by students at dance club, Tamia, Kemara, Kay and Jharne had been working tirelessly every break time to complete their dance with rigorous rehearsals to prepare for their performance.

We had two more duets with Jaime, Gemima and Amelia and Safiyya, and both pieces were choreographed by students and added an eclectic mix of dance styles and music to the evening. The show concluded with the third performance by the Year 12 level 3 BTEC dancers. The students have been completing unit 40 and 52, choreographing dance and urban dance practice. This work was taught to them to develop their skills in urban dance and we saw a wide range of urban dance styles: hip hop, commercial, waacking, locking and popping. As part of their choreographing dance unit students also choreographed an extract each and taught it to the rest of the company. The piece was a test of endurance at 7 minutes long with a total of 5 sections.

We applaud the courage and creativity of all of the students who took part!





Thought for the Week

"Christmas is not a date. It is a state of mind." – Mary Ellen Chase



Wintergarden Singers – Mr Pinder

Saturday, Ah, bitter chill it was!

The owl, for all his feathers, was a-cold; The dogs limp'd trembling through the frozen grass, And silent was the flock in woolly fold:

Numb were the choir's fingers, however, their voices sang loud and bold.

Saturday 14th December saw another fantastic performance by the Southfields Academy Music Collective. The occasion was the Friends of Coronation Gardens Wintergarden event. The brilliant choir and soloist accompanied by Michael Gumble sang a selection of popular Christmas songs including 'Santa Claus is Coming to Town', 'Hallelujah' and 'Feliz Navidad'.

The Coronation Gardens Wintergarden organisers were thrilled with the performance. In their congratulatory email they stated, 'your school was by far the most fun' and have invited us back next year.

Buon Natale
Feliz Navidad
Boze Narodzenie
Joyeux Noel
Shèngdàn jié kuàilè
Afishapa
Melkam Gena

Merry Christmas!



Christmas Jumper Day – Ms Sulliman

Last week staff at the academy raised £100 for Save the Children by participating in Christmas Jumper Day!



The Homeless Project – Mr Whitfield

On Thursday 12th December our Year 12 performing arts students took to the streets of Waterloo to be homeless for the day. Our actors have been studying Strasberg's theories of 'Method Acting' and were working towards a performance the following week. What would it feel like to be invisible on the streets of London? Could I even handle the cold for a few hours, let alone overnight? Our brave students were soon to find out.

"I will never walk past a homeless person again without at least offering a smile. The loneliness I felt in those few short hours made me re-evaluate everything. I am so grateful"- student, Valentina Rendon- Suarez

Monday 17th December brought the promenade performance of the resulting self-penned collection of monologues. The audience gathered in the drama studio, collected a cup of warm soup and embarked on the journey into the cold.

"I didn't even feel the chill on the short walk between each performance; all I could feel was the intense emotion beautifully delivered by each young story teller. This experience will stay with me for a very long time". Jeannie Lenderson - audience member.



Dates for Your Diary

Monday 6th January 2020 – Academy Resumes

Tuesday 7th January 2020 – 6th Form Application Deadline

Tuesday 14th January 2020 – Y8 Students Options Fair

Tuesday 21st January 2010 – Y8 Recommendations Evening