



Southfields Academy Weekly Newsletter

Week Commencing 21st December 2020



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

Prize Awards 2020

Sadly, due to Coronavirus the Academy was unable to hold its annual star-studded Prize Evening. This ceremony takes place to recognise and celebrate the achievement of students in Years 8 – 13 for the previous academic year and to recognise those Year 7s who have achieved most in their first half term with us.

However, it is important that students who have achieved great things during the last academic year should have these achievements recognised. Therefore, on Tuesday the special award winners were presents their cups and trophies by the Principal and Headteacher. This virtual Prize giving will be shared with parents and students in the New Year via video link.

The following students were awarded special awards so many congratulations to them all. Well done!

David Edwards - Creative Writing Award	Sosna Daniel	12BYD
Oliver Builders Award for Design & Technology	Irfan Habib	12TON
James Murray Award for Determination	Ewan Cocude- Crozier	12MMA
Peter Brown Award for Construction	Elvis Adibe Kwashie	12HRZ
Robin Reeves Award for 'Overcoming Adversity'	Nicholas McIlroy	
Early Builders Humanities Award	Indiana Dinham	9QRA
SAS Copiers' Award for Business Studies	Chiranjeev Karana	13HLR
Marta Stroczyńska Mathematics Award	Najlaa Said	12TON
Trustee's Award for Most Improved Boy	Aironas Jurgilas	12BYD
Trustee's Award for Most Improved Girl	Georgia Maddix	12JFR
Head teacher's/ Principal's Award - progress attainment	John Kerr	12BHI
Head teacher's/ Principal's Award - progress attainment	Najlaa Said	12TON
The Lab Studios' Award for Music	Kevin Faerber	10SAM
The Lab Studios' Award for Music	Jigme Sherpa	10CRT
The Lab Studios' Award for Music	Keira Cunningham-Jack	11FRT





Prize Awards continued..



Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 11th December, staff donned their best Christmas jumpers in aid of raising money for Save The Children. From sparkly Santas to rocking reindeers, the effort and range of festive knitwear was impressive! A huge thank you to all of those who participated and donated



Dates for your Diary

- 4th January 2021 – Academy Resumes
- 4th January 2021 – Year 13 Mock Examinations Begin
- 4th January 2021 – Year 12 Vocational Examinations Start
- 12th January 2021 – Year 9 Virtual Options Fayre
- 21st January 2021 – Year 11 Parents' Evening, Virtual
- 25th January 2021 – Year 12 Mock Exams Begin
- 28th January 2021 – Year 13 Parents' Evening, Virtual
- 1st February 2021 – INSET Day





Thought for the Week

"Remember, Hope is a good thing, maybe the best of things, and no good thing ever dies." ~ Stephen King



Competition winners, 'My Voice Matters' – Ms Sulliman

Shania, Ashante, Qanta and Leona in Y9, as well as Saffron in Y8 have all been rewarded with book tokens for their writing!

Reverend Ian Tattum, from St Barnabas Church and Ms Jennifer Beckford of the Nicholas Stewart Project met with a panel of judges to read and rewarded a number of entries.

The students were asked to write reflective pieces entitled 'My Voice Matters'. Their guidance was to express how they feel about the BLM movement and the impact of COVID on the BAME community.

The judges commended the students for the quality of their writing, commenting that the entries were "articulate, passionate and educational".

Shania's entry in particular was chosen by the judges as an outstanding piece that expressed a viewpoint well worth hearing. Rev Ian Tattum also wanted give a couple of personal commendations to Joziah Elliot and Boluwatife Ogunbabambi for deft use of language and directness.

The competition demonstrates the power of the pen - how writing can be cathartic and expressive, often moving people. We are very proud of the girls for their effort with their writing, especially on a matter that has impacted so many in our community.

My Voice Matters - Ashante Payne, Year 9

I think the BLM (Black Lives Matter) movement is extremely meaningful and important. I say this because for centuries, us black people have been treated like we are less than others, when really, we are all equal- or we should be. I agree that white privilege exists, but I don't think it's right. If white people are privileged, then everyone else should be too. This movement will definitely take a lot of time, but we are willing to take that time, just as long as we are finally treated with the respect and equality we all deserve.

A wise man once said, "Most people write me off when they see me.

They do not know my story.

They say I am just an African.

They judge me before they get to know me.

What they do not know is;

The pride I have in my name and the meaning behind it.

Just as my name has meaning, I too will live my life with meaning.

So you think I am nothing?

Don't worry about what I am now,

For what I will be, I am gradually becoming.

I will raise my head high wherever I go

Because of my African pride,

And nobody will take that away from me." - Idowu Koyenikan

I find this extremely beautiful and touching, as he speaks a lot of truth here. "Most people write me off when they see me." This is a problem that happens a lot, and the fact that he includes this is very heart-warming. Prejudice is destructive, but it does happen. You might get judged by people before they even get to know you, and that can hurt- a lot. For example, I am a black female and people might take one look at me and make assumptions about my level of education or involvement with violent crime or gangs as these are very common stereotypes of black people, and they are VERY unfair.

What people don't seem to understand, is that silence is deadly and, even if you DO support the movement, you have to show that you support it. This can be done in many ways: donating to the cause, signing petitions and spreading awareness in any way you can. For example, if you have a large platform on social media - use it. Don't be afraid to voice your opinion, as long as it's respectful and informative.

I also think that it's important to educate yourself, as well as educating others, instead of being ignorant and disrespectful. For example, if someone says "Black Lives Matter" to you and you reply with, "Well, all lives matter," that is extremely ignorant, as we are not saying that Black Lives Matter more than other lives- We are simply stating that our lives matter just as much as anyone else's, as they haven't mattered for over 200 years.

My Voice Matters - Qanta Faheem, Year 9

Silence is deadly, so use your voice.

Freedom of speech, one of every human's rights, is a privilege. We should take advantage of this to speak up and share our thoughts. Contributing can make a change. Black lives matter. Throughout history, protests, riots have occurred but why? Segregation, discrimination, racist slurs have prompted people to fight for equality. Victims of such behaviour have led to emotional protests throughout the world. For example: George Floyd. A black man who was killed because of the colour of his skin, murdered by a white police officer. This unfortunate incident led to protests and riots. Why? Because people have had enough. Black Lives Matter, it is time to educate the uneducated.

'I had a dream'- Martin Luther King, so let's make it come true. It is time for this dream to be realised and accepted. Racism is everywhere. I think that peaceful protests may be considered 'too soft to inspire change, but I strongly believe they can. At least they show we are all trying. If you ever experience racism or find yourself in the position of a bystander, I suggest you speak up for what is right: 'The time is always right to do what is right'- Martin Luther King. For years people of colour have gone through this struggle, being treated differently and judged on the basis of race. We are all equal, we are all human and in the end we are all living on the same planet.

During this terrible time of coronavirus, the murder of George Floyd has had a massive impact, causing so many protests. Even with the restrictions imposed by social distancing and lockdown, people didn't stop because it emotionally hurt them, so they fought for justice. Black lives matter! It is obviously quite hard to be going through this tough time and for such an inequality to occur is unacceptable, action is needed.

October is black history Month. This month is a time to reflect on all those innocent lives that were taken away and for those who experienced inequality. For example, Rosa Parks, the woman who stood up for herself during the time of the bus boycott and then was arrested. She was hugely involved in the Civil Rights movement. "To gain justice on the buses in the city"- Martin Luther King. Justice needed to take its place, if none of this happened you would walk into a bus watching everyone separated and treated so differently. Black lives matter!

As a 13 year old girl in a free country, that has herself provided with education which teaches the Black Lives Matter movement, I should use my voice and take part in making a change for the better. When I heard about the murder of George Floyd, I was devastated and angry at the same time. This made me want to take part and educate people. I did a tribute for this. I covered the streets in chalk with messages like: "Black lives matter", "injustice is wrong", "everyone is equal". A few hours later I saw people taking pictures of it. This makes me feel happy, knowing that I have spread awareness.

My Voice Matters – Shania Goulbourne, Year 9

Black lives matter,
We will stand together as one,
Working to protect one another,
Fighting for each other,
"An attack against one is an attack against all",
Don't sit back and be silent,
We will let our voice be known,
We will be a wall that will stand strong,
We will work together fighting for what is right,
Together we rise and never fall.

I am black,
You are white,
Both humans,
Both bleed the same blood,
Both breathe the same air,
We look different,
But deep down we are the same.

We fight together, not against one another,
Help each other to stand not fall,
Help us move forward and not pull us back,
BLACK LIVES MATTER!



Ms Sulliman presenting book tokens to the 'My Voice Matters' Competition winners!



The Academy would like to take this opportunity to wish all students and their parents / carers a restful, safe break and a happy New Year.

Christmas card designed by:
Dragos Mantaluta, Year 12



Keep up with the Academy

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You will then be able to click on the 'News' button to view all of the latest news items that have been added to the school(s) you have selected and also all of the upcoming calendar events by clicking on the 'Events' button.