



OUR LADY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL

Issue No. 447

Friday, 17th July 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

Sports Day was a great day out for key stage 3 students on Tuesday – the weather held fair, just!! And the standard of athletics was fantastic. Congratulations and well done to all the winning athletes, after a narrow victory last year Manettus built on their success and were convincing winners of the overall competition having also taken first place in all three year group competitions. Students were also delighted to cheer their teachers in the return of the staff relay, after a three year absence, with the winning team being led by Mr Duffy. A very big thank you to Ms Wilburn, Head of PE for a fantastic feat of organisation, ably assisted by the PE Department, Ms Lopes and Ms Gill. Also, thank you to all the staff for their support in so many different ways on the day – caterers, time keepers, scorers, supervisors, etc.... – and to Dr Blackwell for keeping us all so well informed throughout the events. Finally, in the midst of all the sporting achievements, I am delighted to note that our spirit of co-operation and thinking of others shone through as – during the morning – two different expensive items of lost property were handed in by students so we had two very happy owners who wished to thank their 'mystery helpers'.

We wish good luck to all our examination students for their Results days in August.

Thank you to everyone involved in our school community for all their hard work and commitment to the school throughout this academic year. I hope you will all enjoy a wonderful summer break. If you are looking for activity ideas during the holiday, please visit our school website:

www.ourladyshackney.sch.uk / News and Events / Summer Holidays

You will find information on a variety of projects available throughout the summer.

We return to school at the usual time, 8.40am, on **Monday 7th September**. Please be aware that some schools may be starting on an earlier date in September but not us!

Best wishes for a happy retirement & farewell

We wish a very fond farewell and happy retirement to two members of staff – Miss Widmanska (Science) and Miss Whitney (R.E.) who retire after many years of committed service to our school community. We would like to thank them for everything they have done for so many students and colleagues over the years and wish them every happiness in their retirement.

We also say farewell, thankyou and best wishes to Ms. McGinley (Head of Year 10), Ms Georgakakou (Head of Year 11), Mr Rogers (Technology), Ms Garcia, Mr Campbell & Dr Deeny (Science), Mr Sprawson (Geography), Mr Rolston (English), Ms Allen (Behaviour support), Mr Commodore-Mensah (Maths support), Ms Attridge (Exams), Mr O'Brien (Communications). We thank them all for their work in school and we wish them every success in the future

JACK PETCHEY AWARD WINNERS

Our students continue to achieve many different amazing things to make them worthy recipients of our Jack Petchey awards.

Congratulations to our most recent winners

Precious Antwi 9H, Pagie Weti Vakanda 11J, Aurelie Dengo 11H, Alexandra Czachowska 10H, Jennifer Minga 10M, Shannon Duffley 9H

They have nominated a variety of different departments in school to benefit from their award money, including PE, Music, Drama and the Reading Room.

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Hackney Art Show 2016

For the third year running we have been invited to take part in the Hackney Art show at The Town Hall. It is an exciting show and most secondary schools and colleges in Hackney take part in July each year.

Everyone who visited the show were very impressed, not only the quality but the variety of work on display. Well done to all the girls who took part and all their hard work over the last year.



Female Genital Mutilation

In May this year the Nigerian Government made international headlines by passing a law that bans FGM. Campaigners say this is an important precedent and now the world looks to the last few nations who have not yet made it illegal. As an organisation, representing an international community of women here at Our Lady's Convent High School, we would like to add our voice to all those working to outlaw FGM across the world.

FGM comprises all procedures involving the partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or any other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons. FGM is sometimes known as 'female genital cutting' or female circumcision. FGM is considered a grave violation of the rights of girls and women.

Under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003 it is an offence for anyone to perform or assist anyone in carrying out FGM. The Act also covers FGM carried out on UK residents when holidaying abroad.

If this is an issue that concerns you or you would like more information, please call the NSPCC FGM helpline on 0800 028 3550 for more information or email them at fgmhelp@nspcc.org.uk.

Ms McDonald , Deputy Head Teacher

Year 7 English Trip to The Globe Theatre – Report by Ms. Ennor, English Teacher

On Monday 13th July, year 7 braved the weather and ventured down to Southbank to take part in the English trip to The Globe. They began with an enjoyable tour of one of London's finest theatre districts where William Shakespeare made his name. Our year 7s represented Our Lady's Convent fantastically, showing enthusiasm and interest in all of the Elizabethan sites along the way. The girls then spent an hour in the Globe Exhibition trying to answer as many questions correctly about various information in the exhibits. Finally, the girls were taken on an entertaining tour of The Globe, learning about the plays that were originally performed there and the cannon that burnt it down in 1613. The day was immensely successful and enjoyable and we were very proud of year 7s behaviour throughout the day, especially given the soggy weather conditions!

Many thanks to Mr Thornton for organising the trip and a big thank you to all of the staff who joined us on the day.



Year 9 Trip to the Bank of England – Report by Jeanne Haligah 9M

On Wednesday, 8th July, a number of year 9 students went on a trip to the very prestigious Bank of England. First we visited the Bank of England museum and did some exploring in the museum whilst we completed the task at hand. In our searching we found deep history about the Bank of England, we were informed that The Bank of England is the second oldest bank after Swiss Bank Corporation.

After the museum we had the amazing privilege of visiting The Bank of England. It was an honour because the bank is not open to members of the public and also the fact that there are no other branches due to it not being a retail bank. One of the many reasons why this trip was an eye opener was how the volunteer working with us got some of the employees who work there to tell us what their job area is in the bank and how having good work experience is important for any job.

Work Experience – Report from Mrs. McGinley, Head of Year.

Year 10 have been on their work experience placements since Monday 6th July, where they've sampling a taste of working life in real-life working environments. They have shown an admirable commitment in the lead-up to their work experience, with an impressive 75% of students finding their own placements! We are very grateful to INSPIRE for running workshops for the girls in preparation for their placements. I am sure that the Year 10 pupils will benefit enormously from this wonderful experience, and that they will return to school an enriched outlook on their studies and future careers. A very big thank you to Mrs Billings and INSPIRE who have worked hard to co-ordinate and organise the placements for Year 10 pupils.

Attendance and Punctuality – Information from Dr Blackwell

The table below shows the Form within each year group achieving the best attendance and the form achieving the best punctuality for the week ending 10th July 2015.

	Attendance		Punctuality	
	Form	%	Form	%
Year 7	7J	96.45	7M	99.06
Year 8	8P	98	8P	99.67
Year 9	9P	99.33	9M	99.03

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. Jane Gray
Head Teacher