



Magazine Inline

Little Ilford School news & events Spring 2018 Issue 23

In this edition:

Visit to Iceland

Commonwealth Youth Choir

Careers School

Healthy Schools Week and much more

**Learning together
Achieving together
Succeeding together**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the latest addition of Inline. It's been a fantastic term for the school. We have had three advisors with Ofsted training spend a day in the school and all three have said that there is no reason to doubt that the school is still outstanding. All three confirmed the strength of our results and the warm atmosphere in the school. This is very encouraging for us. In addition, we have received the highest amount of first choice applications that the school has ever received (392 for 300 places) and the second highest figure in the borough overall. There were over a thousand applications for the school in total. I believe that this shows the high regard in which we are held by the community. The current year 11 cohort are working hard and look set to achieve even stronger results than the last two year 11 groups.

As you will know, we are remodelling our uniform so that we continue to raise the bar in terms of students' appearance. Many of our students, parents and staff have expressed a desire for the uniform to include a blazer so we have added this to the list. It would not be fair to expect the current year 10 (next year's year 11) to buy a blazer for one year's worth of use, so we have made the new uniform optional for those students. I am aware that changes like this can cause financial hardship for families who have a number of children at the school. If this is true for your family, please contact the relevant pastoral team. There are full details of the changes later in the magazine. I hope you agree that this represents an improvement in the school.

We continue to try to broaden the experiences of our students. The wide diet of visits that have been on offer have included a fantastic trip to Iceland for geography students. Our Year 10 Enterprise Team came second in the recent borough competition.

Our attendance continues to be strong, although we are concerned by the number of students who are turning up after the gate closing at 8.20am. I really appreciate support in ensuring that the students arrive in good time before school. Please note that I don't authorise student absences out of term time unless the reasons are absolutely unavoidable. There are only 38 weeks of education in the school year. With the new GCSE syllabi, which are very demanding in terms of content and difficulty, it is vital that students don't miss lessons.

5304 books were borrowed from our school library last term, which places us well ahead of most comparable schools. I have always been convinced that good reading habits are vital to an outstanding education. Please continue to encourage your child to read. We recommend at least 40 minutes per day for years 7-8 and 20 minutes per day for years 9-11.

It only remains for me to thank you for all of your support during the past term and to wish you all a wonderful Easter break.

Ian Wilson
Headteacher

There are five easy ways to keep in touch!

Our website: www.littleilford.newham.sch.uk

Email: info@littleilford.org

Follow us on Twitter @littleilfordsch & Facebook @OfficialLittleIlfordSchool.

Call: 0208 478 8024

Visit to the Palace of Westminster

As Jack Petchey Award winners Majorie in 9.9 and I were given the opportunity to visit the Palace of Westminster in February. Organised by the Jack Petchey Foundation, the trip included tours of the House of Commons and the House of Lords along with a meeting with local East Ham MP the Rt Hon Stephen Timms.

In the House of Lords we were lucky enough to see Queen Victoria's dressing room which was quite big for a dressing room and contained a toilet which was only accessible by sliding the wall open! We looked at the many portraits hanging on the walls, and one particularly fascinating painting demonstrated the determination that the artist must have needed to paint from scratch straight onto the wall.

We were then taken to see the place that Queen Elizabeth herself is not allowed to enter: the House of Commons. Finally we got to meet Stephen Timms, MP. All the students were allowed to ask the MP questions and we felt that he is doing the best he can with everything going on. I was very impressed that he let everyone ask him questions and didn't just give one word answers. I was also surprised to learn that in the past he had been a Governor of Little Ilford School for 34 years. At the end of our meeting he handed us all his business card, telling us that if we had any problems or questions to not hesitate to call him. Although I missed a history lesson that day, the visit was a history lesson in itself. It was a trip to remember, so thank you to the Jack Petchey Foundation for organising such a memorable day and thank you to Stephen Timms for giving up his time to talk to us and answer our questions.

Nabila, 10.9



Kate Richardson-Walsh OBE

To mark International Women's Day on Thursday 8 March 2018 and to support this year's campaign [#PressforProgress](#), ten lucky Little Ilford students were invited to the offices of Berwin Leighton Paisner, an international law firm on London Bridge, to meet Kate Richardson-Walsh MBE; captain of the Olympic gold-winning GB hockey team who led them to a nail-biting victory in Rio 2016.

Since her international debut in 1999, Kate has made over 370 appearances for her country. She is the most capped female hockey player in GB history and the first openly gay female flag-bearer at an Olympics. Having recently retired from professional sport, Kate shared her powerful story about ambition, leadership and teamwork.

As an ambassador for the Women's Sport Trust, Kate is committed to inspiring the next generation of women to achieve their goals, and this she certainly did, talking about how the England women's hockey team created a strong relationship through communication and determination to succeed, and came together to victory in Rio *because they were women*, and not in spite of it.

After her talk, Kate was very happy to let us all hold her gold medal (which was surprisingly heavy!) and take selfies, impressing us all with her warm and down to earth nature.



Adding some glitter to English



The English department at Little Ilford School always endeavours to provide our students with a range of fantastic opportunities to facilitate their progress. To support this, this half term we started our very exciting and exclusive seminars called 'Glitter', targeted at those aiming for the highest grades in English Language and Literature.

The seminars are on achieving grades 7-9, led by English teachers and guest speakers. The purpose of these seminars is to share strategies and information on the key contents of the syllabus, which will enable the students to 'shine' in their exams and achieve the top grades, hence the name 'Glitter'.

Not only do these seminars prepare students for their exams, but they also expose them to the rigour and method employed by university lecturers to encourage independent thought and resilience.



Our aim is to give our students a well-rounded experience in English, one that empowers them to select topics that are most suited to their needs and importantly, make mature decisions about their own learning journey, whilst also fostering their love for English.

Careers insight visit to Walthamstow Wetlands

Year 8 Careers School horticulture students went to Walthamstow Wetlands where they had a great day packed with challenge, fun and entertainment.

Students completed a Thames Water challenge whereby they had to plan a water distribution system that would take water from a big reservoir to different buildings, such as a hospital, a school, a block of flats, etc. Students had to "buy" pipes and connectors as well as to pay for the land they had to dig up for their pipes to go through. It was an experience that made students aware of what such companies have to do to bring the necessities we take for granted to our homes and the cost incurred. In addition to that students also learnt about job opportunities, how experts remove blockages from pipes around London and how to prevent them. Students even learnt how water is collected and purified, including sewage water!

After lunch the students went for a walk around the water reservoirs, where they enjoyed the fresh air, the ducklings and even a group of birdwatchers, which was something they had never seen before.

At the end of the day all came back happy and exhausted.



Geography students visit Iceland

Year 10 and 11 students had a once in a lifetime experience in January when they were lucky enough to go on a geography field trip to Iceland.

"From the snowy scenes, to the magical atmosphere, Iceland was by far the best experience of my life. Not only was this a once-in-a-lifetime trip, it was an opportunity to drastically broaden our knowledge of the geographical landscapes we are studying for Physical Geography as part of our GCSE. Volcanoes and geysers are things which I merely saw in textbooks or online, and I would never have thought to see in my lifetime. Yet the remarkable organisation and sheer effort of the teachers made it possible for us to see one of the world's most picturesque countries. The tranquillity of Iceland alleviated all the stress that I had caused by exams, and the crunching of the snow as one steps on it could satisfy an insatiable person. Iceland is a place where nature flaunts its beauty. Who wouldn't want to visit such a place? The only downside of the trip was leaving!"

Muhammad, 11.5

"I would highly recommend this trip to future geography students as it is an amazing experience".

Echlas, 11.5

Iceland was a scary yet exhilarating experience where we had the pleasure of travelling across the vast ocean to a country situated near the North Pole. The best feature of Iceland was ultimately the breathtaking views and the amazing landscapes. At first the blistering cold was a burden that everyone endured but we all grew accustomed to it. The Blue Lagoon was definitely the highlight of the trip and the amazing natural hot springs were very aesthetically pleasing."

Mahdi, 11.2



Library news

The library has been busy with author visits this term with recent visits by Candy Gourlay who enthralled Year 7s with her presentation on “The Hero’s Journey”, in which she talked about her upbringing in The Philippines, her struggle to become a published writer and the inspiration she gets from heroes in literature and film.

Sara Outen braved the “Beast from the East” to tell students all about her achievements and adventures and her attempts to row, kayak and cycle around the world were a real inspiration to our students. We are delighted to say that Sarah has agreed to come back to Little Ilford in July to meet more of our students.

Sara Grant, author of the “Chasing Danger” series, also visited the school on the 21st March to meet the year 7 and 8 students.



Students have also been taking part in The Excelsior Award, a nationwide book award for graphic novels and manga where children aged 11-16 decide the winner by rating each book as they read it. Eight graphic novels are selected for the shortlist and the competition now attracts over two hundred and fifty schools and public libraries from all over the UK and Ireland. The overall goal of the scheme is to encourage reading amongst teenagers, however, its secondary target is to raise the profile of graphic novels and manga amongst school librarians and teachers.

Our own judging panel was made up of 15 Year 7 and 8 students who read all eight shortlisted books and voted for “Titans” as the winner. Our votes will now be added to others from around the country and the final result will be announced in June.

The books are now available in the library for other pupils to read.



A Great British Clean up!

Year 7 Careers School Horticulture students took part in the Great British Spring clean-up, part of the Keep Britain tidy campaign that runs through March. Students helped to clean up Little Ilford School dining hall, corridors and playground after break and after lunch. They were a little disappointed as “the school is very clean and we haven’t been able to pick up much litter!”

They are pictured here with the bags of litter they picked up during the day.

Well done! A great team effort!



Commonwealth Youth Choir

Little Ilford School is very proud to be associated with the Commonwealth Youth Choir, which brings together communities across the Commonwealth through music, transcending all cultural, political, social and economic boundaries. It delivers its mission through a three-point plan: "Engage-Educate-Empower", and through its pan-Commonwealth music activities and its unique education initiative, the Commonwealth Music Partnership, which links all the choirs, orchestras and music schools in the Commonwealth for opportunities, exchange and collaboration.

Little Ilford Students, along with other students from primary schools in Manor Park rehearse twice a week, and took part in a recording which accompanied the Queen's Speech on Christmas day. They also had the opportunity to rehearse and record at the Guard's Chapel in Wellington Barracks, pictured below.



Student leaders earn accreditation

A group of 22 Year 10 and Year 11 LIS student leaders have been accredited with their Student Leadership Accreditation Bronze Award by the SSAT (schools, students & teachers network).

The accreditation is a formal way to champion and celebrate the leadership skills our student leaders develop in and out of school. This required them to create a portfolio in which they gathered and uploaded evidence to showcase their skills in different aspects of their leadership, such as communication, being a role model and representing the school.

The feedback was so positive from SSAT that they have been advised to now work on their Silver accreditation.



Healthy Schools Week

Our third annual Healthy Schools Week was our biggest and best to date. Once again, we kicked off the week with our Healthy Travel Card scheme, where students and staff were encouraged to cycle into school and obtain stamps. Each person was then entered into a prize draw. We had two lucky winners: Nathaniel 11.4 and Harshan in 7.9, who were awarded a £10 voucher from Sustrans along with Mariyah in 7.3 who was also awarded a £10 voucher for her dedication and commitment to Cycle club

The bike kit sales on Monday and Thursday gave everyone the opportunity to purchase basic essentials for their bikes at a reduced rate. Lots of freebies were also donated by Jeremy, our resident Bike-It Officer from Sustrans. Jeremy also runs our girls cycle club after school which is a great initiative.

Tuesday saw the launch of our first KS3 pedometer challenge where students in Years 7, 8 and 9 competed against each other to see which class could rack up the most steps around the school. Competition amongst classes was fierce and it was great to see this carrying through to PE lessons as well. Even our SLT members took up the pedometer challenge, with Ms Butcher winning first place and 7.3, 8.4 and 9.9 winning the student challenge.

The Youth Health and Travel Ambassadors were instrumental in coordinating the pedometer challenge and running the Change4Life table during lunch times. Well done to all the girls for stepping up and showing their leadership qualities throughout the week!

Once again there was an amazing spread of lunch-time activities laid on by our cook Sue, Peter and our fabulous catering team. Monday's scary lunch gave students the chance to see the high fat, sugar and salt hidden in every day foods; a real eye opener for most students. On Wednesday, as always, lots of free fruit was available and the popular smoothie bike was back. Staff and students queued patiently to get the chance to hop on and make those very tasty smoothies. The highlight of the week was the omelette challenge. Staff and students were in competition to see who could make the best omelette in the fastest time. Well done to the winner Yasin in 9.4. On Thursday staff and students were rewarded with a healthy breakfast for cycling to school.



The PE department hosted a wide selection of after school sports tournaments. Students took part in football, handball, basketball, table tennis, a rowing challenge and a girls cycling challenge. All competition winners were presented with gold medals and a great time was had by all.

This year saw our first staff yoga session and what an incredibly refreshing session it was! The combination of ambient lights, calming music and a fabulous instructor meant that the staff felt thoroughly relaxed at the end and have requested a regular yoga class to be considered to improve provision for staff wellbeing.

Our final event on Friday was the student, parent and staff badminton session hosted by our superb coach Mr Dave McQueen which was a huge success. A brilliant turn-out by both parents and staff made the session extra special for the students. Parents, staff and students had a great time competing against each other, everyone engaged and having fun...a great way to end a really positive week!

Thank you all for making Healthy Schools Week such a great success!

HeadStart

Young people across Newham schools are taking part in an innovative mental health programme aiming to build resilience and improve wellbeing in 10-16 year olds. The HeadStart programme is delivered in partnership with the London Borough of Newham and funded by the National Lottery through the Big Lottery Fund. As a preventative early help service, HeadStart works with young people, schools, parents, and the community to reduce the chance that young people will develop mental health problems later in life.

Thirteen of our Little Ilford students have been taking part in the HeadStart team social action programme. The team social action intervention is a fun way for young people to give something back to their school or community. In a team, young people decide on a project that can help improve life for people living in Newham, focussing on an issue in their school or local area.

Our team social action group, who named themselves 'Health Squad', chose to raise money for two diabetes charities, as it is a growing health problem in the community. In Newham more people than the national average develop diabetes. There are currently over 20,800 people living with diabetes in Newham and more than 1,600 people being newly diagnosed each year.

The group set out to raise £150 in total for Diabetes UK and JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) but managed to raise an incredible £256.40 by selling healthy snacks at lunchtime and collecting donations in the playground!



Sports Roundup



Year 8 Football Vs Lister

On Monday 26th February the year 8 team faced Lister. Due to illness and other reasons we were down to 10 players so did not have the best of starts, having a very defensive attitude and not trying to get into their half much, but after 10 minutes the team had a change of attitude and started to be more attacking. Jeffrey in 8.5 had a close effort saved, as well as Adam in 8.6. Then 20 minutes into the game the deadlock was broken with a brilliant run down the right from Jeffrey whose cut back in had his first effort saved, beat everyone to the rebound and put it in the back of the net. A positive second half saw many goals, with brilliant play from all the team and many long runs saw Jeffrey get his second and Adam get a hat trick. A good win for the team especially as they were playing with one

less player! Man of the match was Adam, 8.6.

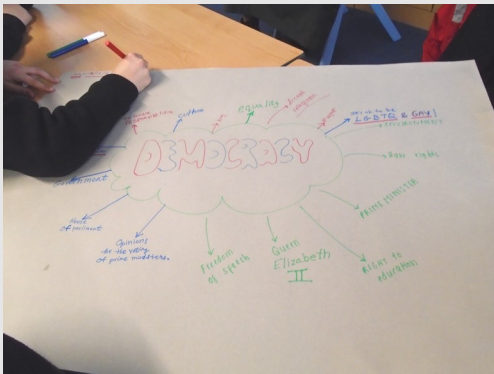
Year 8 Football Vs Eastlea

The year 8 team faced Eastlea who proved to be tough opponents. In the first half, goals from Tyrel and Jeffrey put the score at 2-1. Long ranging runs from Jeffrey caused problems for Eastlea's defence, resulting in lots of possession and pressure for Little Ilford. The second half proved much easier with the boys scoring quickly and easily, with Jeffrey getting a second, Adam getting two and Fabio joining the scorers, putting the final score at 6-1.

LIS Vs St Bons

A cold Wednesday evening at Wanstead Flats was one of the first 3 away fixtures for Little Ilford with year 7, 8 and 9 football teams playing against St Bons. Year 8s prevailed as the only winners with some questionable first half decisions from the referee, resulting in a goal within the first 5 minutes for St Bons., followed by a penalty which put the score at 2-0. With good resilience and determination from Adam in 8.6, Tyrel in 8.4 and Jeffrey in 8.5 leading the way, we scored one back and with some potential penalty shots we went into half time 2-1 down. The second half going with the wind proved much easier for the boys, with long ranging runs from Jeffrey down the right hand side of the pitch, resulting in Jeffrey's second goal of the game. With a tense finish and 7 minutes from time Tyrel put the ball in the back of the net after one of Jeffrey's long runs, supported with brilliant defence and attack from Adam. The final score was 3-2 to Little Ilford.

Citizenship Day



On Wednesday 7th March all students at Little Ilford School spent the day exploring the meaning of British values as part of citizenship day. The aim of the day was for students to build upon the spiritual, moral, social and cultural understanding of who we are and the values that are important in our society. Teachers dedicated time to plan and deliver valuable lessons based on the importance of



democracy, understanding the rule of law, individual liberty, and the meaning of mutual respect and tolerance of others. The theme ran throughout the entire day with a typical British lunch being served, the roast dinner. It was a fantastic day and students responded very positively.

GCSE art students visit the city

On the 11th March a group of over 70 year 11 students braved the cold to visit the Sky Gardens and the Tate Modern as part of their preparation for their art exam: Fragments. After taking in the stunning views from the Sky Garden, they walked to the Tate Modern to observe more of the urban landscape and take in two exhibitions from the Living Cities and the Materials and Objects displays. Both were very conceptual but it was a thought provoking process that engaged and prompted many discussions with students who should be congratulated on their exemplary behaviour.



Uniform 2018-19

Little Ilford School has been investigating introducing a new uniform for LIS students. Having taken into account the views of students, staff and parents, and with the approval of the School Governors, from September 2018 it will be compulsory for all students in Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 to wear the updated uniform.

This will consist of:

- a black school blazer with a Little Ilford badge on the pocket and red piping around the lapel
- a new tie which will be a different colour for each year group
- an optional headscarf with coloured braid which will also match the allocated year group colour of the student
- Students will keep the same year group colour throughout their time at the school, so there will be no need to buy a new tie or headscarf each year.

We strongly recommend that you place your order for the new uniform as soon as possible so that it will be ready in September. If the blazer doesn't fit your child in September, the uniform suppliers will exchange it for the correct size free of charge.

When you place your order you will need to pay a small deposit to secure your order, and will be contacted when the items are ready for collection from the suppliers. The price of the blazer will be £25.00 and the ties would normally be £5.00; **but for this year only will be given free of charge to all students ordering a blazer.**

The uniform suppliers are:

Ian Howard

409 Barking Road
East Ham
E6 2JT
Tel: 020 8472 1729

Fashion Stop

138 High Street North
East Ham
E6 2HT
Tel: 020 8552 3200

- Every other item of the uniform will remain the same so the existing rules will still apply:
- School jumpers may be worn beneath the new school blazer but it is optional
- Black trainers are not acceptable as shoes and wearing them will result in behaviour points.
- Students **MUST NOT** be wearing sporty tops/tracksuits/hoodies/sweatshirts, etc. as outdoor coats - these will be confiscated.
- Body-warmers are **NOT** to be worn instead of school jumpers.
- During warm weather periods students are entitled to wear their uniform without jumpers, but must not wear other jackets or jumpers instead of their school jumper. Shirts must be tucked in and ties tied to the top.
- Jewellery should not be worn in school. The only exceptions are
 - Watches
 - Stud earrings
 - Small sleepers
 - Religious pendantsAny other jewellery may be confiscated
- All infringements of the uniform code will result in behaviour points accrued
- Next year's Year 11 will not need to wear a blazer but **MUST** wear a jumper
- Ankle length jilbab and school trousers underneath

Uniform is a high priority as regards our high expectations of our student community.

If a student does not have the correct shoes (for whatever reason – a note from the parents/carer must be provided in their diary and dated) the Pastoral team will provide plimsolls for the student/s to wear for that day. Students will **NOT** be allowed to wear their black trainers *while they are waiting to buy their new shoes or get their school shoes repaired*. If the student refuses to wear the school provided plimsolls/tie/jumper etc. then the student will have to spend the day in the Reflection room.

In the same way the school will provide a tie, which must be returned at the end of the day. Students **NOT** in the correct uniform will be sent to their Pastoral team and a behaviour point will be logged and parents will receive a phone call/text message.

If there are any financial concerns then parents/carers need to speak to the relevant Pastoral team.

Important Dates this term

Back to school	Monday 16 th April
Year 10 Parents Evening	Wednesday 25 th April, 4.00-6.30
FLIS meeting	Thursday 26 th April, 4.30-5.30 (Prevent & Safeguarding)
Bank Holiday, School closed	Monday 7 th May
Half Term	Monday 28 th May-Friday 1 st June
Eid-ul-Fitr, School closed	Friday 15 th June
INSET Day, School closed	Monday 18 th June
Year 7 Parents Evening	Wednesday 20 th June, 4.00-6.30
FLIS meeting	Wednesday 27 th June, 4.30-5.30 (How to keep your child safe online, Cyberbullying)
Year 11 Prom	Wednesday 11 th July
Activities Day	Thursday 19 th July
Last day of term	Tuesday 24 th July