



# Magazine

# INLINE

Little Ilford School News & Events Autumn 2016 - Issue 19

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Learning together  
Achieving together  
Succeeding together

Hello everyone,

It's been quite a term. We've packed up the old building, where students have been learning for sixty years, and moved into our lovely new school which was built on the playground. Despite issues around leaks, telephones, doors and fire alarms, we have already noticed a huge difference in the quality of the acoustic design in the classrooms and corridors. The light shines down through the voids in the building and we have a beautiful new hall and dining area. By September 2017 the playground will be returned to us with a multiple use games area and an artificial pitch.

Our outstanding school has now got the outstanding facilities it deserves. Despite all the work involved in moving, you will see from this magazine that our staff and students have continued to be involved in a wide range of exciting activities and opportunities. Our exam results in the summer showed impressive rises in the proportion of students who gained a C or above in both English and Maths (up from 61% to 66%) and the English Baccalaureate (English, Maths, Science, a language and History/Geography at C+: up from 34% to a highest ever figure of 37% when the national rate is 24%). We are really proud of these results as our students enter the school with results that are significantly below the national average.

I would like to take this opportunity to reinforce the value of reading for our students. We have a new Learning Resources Centre where students can absorb themselves in a book or do homework on the computers. As one of George R.R. Martin's characters says, "A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies. The man who never reads lives only one."

I hope that all of you have a good Christmas break with your families and that 2017 brings you everything that you hope for.

**Mr Ian Wilson**  
**Headteacher**



# Olympic taekwondo winner visits Little Ilford

As part of the Mayor of Newham “Every Child a Sports Person” initiative, Little Ilford School was lucky to be visited by the British taekwondo bronze and silver medallist Lutalo Mohammed on Thursday 1st November, who talked to a number of Year 8 students and staff about life as an Olympic sportsman, and how crushing his experience was at the Rio Olympics last summer, when he just missed out winning a gold medal in the last second of the competition. He said that he has moved on from the experience now and that “there are no mistakes in life, only lessons”, using it as motivation and inspiration to compete in Tokyo in 2020 to win gold.

Lutalo first took up taekwondo at the age of 3 and seriously started competing at the age of 9 while watching the Sydney Olympics, where taekwondo was first recognised as an olympic sport. He now spends a lot of his time visiting schools inspiring young people to take up sports. The LIS students had a lot of good questions to ask Lutalo, some relevant and some not so, such as “what car do you drive?”, with one enterprising student even offering to set up a YouTube channel for him!

Lutalo said that what makes top athletes is that they train hard even when they don’t want to, and a lot of athletes do well at school because they use the same discipline when studying as they do when training for their sport.



*Lutalo demonstrates his “signature move”*



# Sports Roundup

## Year 8 and 9 -v- School 21

On a frosty evening in East London, a combined Year 8/9 team and Year 10 team travelled to play an indoor fixture against School 21. The Year 8 team were missing some key players due to other sporting commitments - this meant the players went into the fixture with an opportunity to impress. The match began at high tempo, both teams pressing forward in attack by overloading the defence; this led to opportunities on the counter-attack from both sides. It was School 21 who made the breakthrough after a tense opening few minutes with Little Ilford conceding six goals before half time. The second half showed a huge improvement with impressive performances from Faizaan Siddique and James Mayes leading to two goals without reply. This left the final score at 6-2 in favour of School 21.



## Year 10 -v- School 21

Next came the year 10 match in a fiercely contested game.

The intensity was enough to draw a sizable crowd to witness Little Ilford take an early lead through Mohin Qureshi's excellent finish. With Abaan Patel commanding from the back, a clean sheet was kept up to half time. This was met with 2 in response. 2-0 at the break, in control. The second half was a mixed affair. Little Ilford pressing in attack, School 21 hitting them on the break. One counter attack led to their first goal. 2-1. A third (Mohin Qureshi) and fourth (Ryan Adkins-Conquest) looked to have made the game safe. Two late goals came from School 21 in the final minute of play. Final score, 4-3 Little Ilford.

## Y10 v Lister Community School 7/12/16

Little Ilford School went into the match against Lister Community School with high hopes having previously beaten School 21. As the game started, Little Ilford looked nervous as Lister dominated the attack. LIS soon got a grip on the match as they scored two goals and survived a penalty shout. After half time, LIS shipped an early goal as the game became a little scrappy. The team played well and eventually scored a further three goals to make the score 5-1. All 5 goals were scored by star striker Zain Khan, with assists coming from Mohin Qureshi (3), Ivan Pecha and Aswad Muhammad. Everyone played brilliantly, but the Man of the Match title goes to Abaan Patel, who demonstrated great leadership qualities as captain, coupled with some exceptional defending. The manager,



Mr. Smith, was delighted with the result and the performance of the team, especially as this was his last fixture. Confidence is high in the team and, hopefully, we will see them continue their fine performances into future fixtures.

## ESFA Boys Under 12 Open Schools Cup Vs Acland Burghley School 22.11.16

At the start of the match we played well, keeping lots of possession and trying to get into the opponents' half. Our defending was well organised and effective until the 10 minute mark when our opponents scored a very lucky goal, through a lack of communication from us. After this we struggled to recover and organise ourselves and they scored 3 goals quickly; they had worked out Arun's (our GK) weakness - aim for the corners in a very big goal. In the second half we were better organised in defence, which meant we had to have more players defending; this was good as it limited them to only scoring 3 more goals. This would have been a lot more but Arun made some great saves to stop some good shots. Due to us having to have more players defending, this limited our chances in the second half, but when we did have our chances throughout the game we kept getting too close to the goalkeeper, which made our shots easier to defend and save.

**Man of the match: Zakir, 7.4**

**Match report by Tyrel, 7.4**

# Sports roundup (Continued)

## 5-a-side tournament

On a wet and windy Thursday night we went to Kingsford Community School to play in a 5-a-side tournament. We didn't have the best start losing 4-0 to Brampton Manor. We missed some chances but things started to come together at the end, playing as a good team. We then lost to Langdon Academy 1-0. Followed up with a better team performance against Cumberland, a 1 on 1 with the goal keeper and a penalty should have seen us go 2-0 up but unfortunately we drew the game 0-0. Our fourth game



against Oasis was our best performance with some solid defence, and two quick goals scored by Zakir and Tyrel gave us a 2-0 victory. The final game was 1-1 draw against Kingsford. This was my favourite game as this was the best we played as a team. I think going to Kingsford was a great experience and it will influence our next match.

**Match report by Tyrel, 7.4**

## Professional basketball at the Copper Box

A group of hardworking Little Ilford KS3/KS4 Gifted & Talented students was rewarded for their behaviour and effort with a special trip to a professional basketball game between London Lions and Newcastle Eagles at the Copperbox, Stratford City.

In what was their first visit to see a professional sport game for many of the G&T students, they were entertained by an exciting encounter between two of the top teams in the British Basketball League. London Lions ended up suffering their first defeat of the season, losing 88-81.

### TV Presenter Alicia Dixon

In addition to the professional basketball game, the Little Ilford G&T students were treated to an extra surprise when it was discovered that famous TV personality Alicia Dixon was in attendance filming for her new ITV celebrity dance TV show, 'Dance, Dance, Dance'. The students were a part of numerous shots



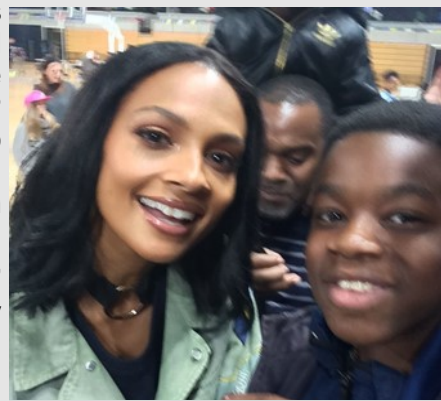
*Little Ilford G&T students pose for a group picture with London Lions coach Laurent Irish*

that will be aired on National Television. At the end of the game the delighted students received VIP treatment by going onto the court to pose for numerous pictures with London Lions coach Laurent Irish and TV personality Alicia Dixon.

Throughout the trip the students' behaviour was immaculate and they represented Little Ilford School in the best possible way.



*Chris, 11.9 with Alicia Dixon at the Copperbox*



*Alicia Dixon posing with Shackleme, 9.7*

## Year 11 graduation evening

Little Ilford School leavers from 2016 were treated to a 'graduation' evening to celebrate their achievements at LIS in early December. Students were accompanied by their parents and donned their best attire, dressing to impress in order to receive a special presentation folder and copies of their examination certificates.

The evening included guest speaker, Paralympian Ryan Raghoo. During the evening Mr Kulkarni and Mr Wilson delivered speeches congratulating them on their achievements, and Ryan Raghoo spoke passionately about how he had struggled against the odds in order to become a World Record Holder. He told former LIS students and parents how he went from having six months to live, to breaking the world junior record in the long jump. Ryan's message was inspirational, capturing the hearts and thoughts of all present and it seemed timely for our ex-year 11s as they embark on a new chapter of their lives: **Believe in yourself. Follow your dreams. Never, never give up!**

Many thanks to all staff who helped to organise the event and to those who attended.



## Debating competition

On Friday 9th December a group of year 10 students took part in a debating competition in central London. The event was organised by Pinsent Masons in collaboration with ELBA. Our team debated against other schools from the boroughs of Newham and Waltham Forest. The topics ranged from social media and advertising, to part time jobs for students and Brexit. Our performance was excellent and we received a lot of compliments from the judging panel, chaired by Lord Justice Floyd. Unfortunately, our team did not qualify for the final, which was deservedly won by Sarah Bonnell School. Despite



this, it was an incredible experience and we were very impressed by the quality of the debates and the judges. We even had the opportunity to see a view of London from the top of the building, which was very exciting.

We were proud to represent Little Ilford School and we really enjoyed the day!

**Debate team**



# Black History Month

Business woman and entrepreneur Mavis Amankwah came to LIS in October to speak to students as part of our Black History Month events.

In her inspirational and motivational talk, she spoke about how, although she had a traumatic childhood and horrendous teenage life, she did not let that hold her back. From the age of 10 she looked after her two younger brothers to help her mum and at the age of 12 started working on a market stall earning her own money and helping others.

Today she is a business woman/entrepreneur wearing many 'hats', and helps others through her business, social and personal life.



## Year 10 visit Builders Crafts College

The Building Crafts College was founded in 1893 by the Worshipful Company of Carpenters', a City livery company, to train young people in a range of construction crafts. The first Chairman of the College was architect Professor Banister Fletcher, the author of the world renowned book 'A History of Architecture', first published in 1896 and still in print today. The College occupied the same site in central London from 1893 to 2001 before relocating to a purpose-built facility in Stratford.

In early November ten Year 10 students visited the College and watched demonstrations of stonemasonry, carpentry and other skills, and were told about the range of multiskill full time and part time courses and apprenticeships available to them.



The school has been raising money for the National AIDS Trust to mark World AIDS Day on 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Kate Chadwick has been leading assemblies about breaking the stigma of HIV. This fear leads people to keep their HIV status a secret as others may judge them.

HIV can still be a disease that is seen as a punishment for risky behaviour and this has a terrible impact on those living with HIV and their families.

Little Ilford students have been buying and wearing the red ribbon as a symbol of HIV awareness and a commitment to break the stigma and to show that we welcome all people in the Little Ilford family.



## Macbeth plays to a full house

Little Ilford School students have been working hard for the last 3 months preparing a production of Macbeth. With a punishing rehearsal schedule of two hours every evening twice a week plus weekends, the students initially found the play very difficult to interpret, but with the teachers helping to make it less alien to them, they gradually gained a greater understanding of the lines and the power of the drama.

The performances have been a stunning success, particularly as students were able to make use of the amazing sound and lighting equipment in the brand new auditorium, and showed that our students are more than capable of engaging with Shakespeare in an utterly entertaining and intelligent way.



There are four easy ways to keep in touch!  
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