

ARTiculate



Year 12 IB students have all been preparing a 10 minute presentation on a piece of art that they find particularly interesting or stimulating. They are working towards the annual ARTiculation heats in January. Last year one of our IB students, Abigail Lane, reached the finals at Cambridge University and we are hoping for similar success this year.

Music in the IB



As well as timetabled IB music our students have been taking part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities hosted by the Performing Arts department so far this academic year. This includes singing with One Voice, our mixed year group choir and playing with the academy orchestra. We also have IB students rehearsing and performing with Advanced Collective, our advanced instrumental group, and in our cast and band for our upcoming production of 'The Wizard of Oz'.

IB students take advantage of our private music tuition service and in

September Kieran Williams, one of our year 13 IB students, was awarded a music scholarship meaning that he receives free music lessons for the whole academic year, as well as taking a place within the Scholarship Band. In addition to all of the fantastic musical activities already taking place, our year 12s have been very enthusiastic in teaching themselves how to play the piano as part of their CAS programme and the year 13 IB students will be putting together a short performance of Christmas carols for the year 7s in the week before the holidays. Music truly is alive and well in the IB at Ashcroft Academy!



IB Visual Art



It has been fantastic to see our art students taking advantage of the range of different media we have available at the Academy. Pictured is year 12 IB student Anna-Eva Tudor trying her hand at the potter's wheel.

Model United Nations



Our fourth annual Model United Nations simulation was held on the evening of December 1st. A record 15 nations took part in the debate to reach a solution to the global refugee crisis. The delegation team representing Germany, ably led by Moni Serneabat Ungar from Year 13 IB, was awarded the prize for their outstanding research, position

paper and speech; whilst Year 12 IB student Helen Webley-Brown won the public speaking prize for her superb representation of Hungary. Both Moni and Helen demonstrated that they would certainly have bright futures in the world of politics or diplomacy if they so chose.



Paired reading



As part of the service element of their CAS programme our year 12 IB students have been helping younger students develop their reading skills. Not only has this benefitted our year 7s, it has also made our IB students more aware of their responsibilities as role models within the school.

Physics Experiments



Our year 13 higher level Physics students have particularly enjoyed the hands-on experiences in the science laboratory. They designed the series of experiments themselves and carried these out with only the minimum of supervision. It is a distinctive aspect of our IB science programme that we produce independent learners who are certainly ready for the demands of university level scientific investigation

STEAM Club

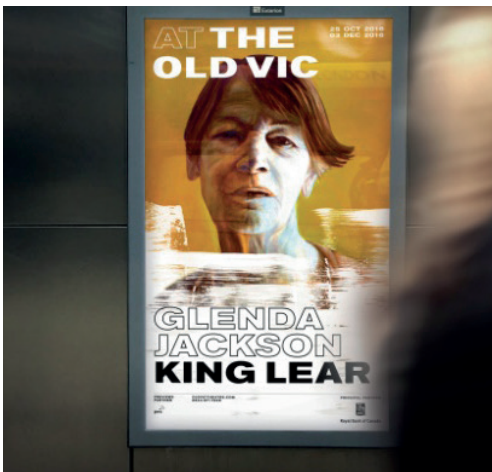
Ashcroft's STEAM club goes from strength to strength with many of our IB students involved in engaging our younger students in the of world scientific discovery. They were certainly instrumental in the Academy's STEAM club being named the best in the United Kingdom.



This fantastic year fittingly culminated with IB STEAM Ambassadors Kimberley Carstens and Nazeema Ishmael taking their charges to a science conference at Portsmouth University where they met a genuine hero of science: British astronaut, Tim Peake.



“King Lear” at the Old Vic



The highlight of the term in IB English was undoubtedly our trip into town to see the triumphant return of Glenda Jackson to the stage in Shakespeare's "King Lear". She was nothing short of spectacular in what is one of Shakespeare's most complex and demanding roles. This performance really brought the text to life, which has been particularly beneficial for year 13 IB as they prepare for their literature examination in May.

High Ashurst Outdoor Education Centre



To start the year the year 12 IB students all participated in an



outdoor learning experience at the High Ashurst Centre in Surrey. We got to know each other really well through team building activities and challenged ourselves on the high ropes course and climbing wall. But the highlight of the weekend for most was kicking back around the campfire, toasting marshmallows after a hard day dangling from a rope.

Wandsworth Food bank

An element of service that has really got our IB students in the festive mood has been the December push for food parcels to aid families below the poverty line in Wandsworth this

Christmas. With the generous donations of year 7 students our year 13s managed to collect so many provisions that we were unable to fit them all in our CAS Coordinator's car!



Maths Olympiad



Marcus Ahmad in year 12 IB has done brilliantly to qualify for the British Mathematical Olympiad by scoring so highly in the senior maths challenge.

We wish him the very best in his quest to break into the British International Olympiad team that will compete in Rio de Janeiro next Summer.

Prize Giving



Congratulations are due to our IB prize winners (from left to right): Fredrika Persson won the Head Student Award, Emily Yelverton won the IB Cup and the CAS trophy was awarded to Nazeema Ishmael. Emily graduated from our IB programme last academic year with 43 points and is currently studying English at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

Biology Fieldtrip to Dorset

The year 13 IB Biology internal assessment was completed in Studland Bay in September. Despite some inclement weather our students investigated a range of topics including the effect of light on coastal plants and had first-hand experience of the local wildlife.



Group 4 Science Project

The group pictured won the Group 4 Project for their presentation into the science behind the Paralympics. As the name suggests this is a collaborative presentation that involves looking at a topic from all three branches of science. This group were praised for their superb teamwork and highly engaging and insightful presentation.



University Update

Sixteen students have applied to university from the IB. We have received 34 offers from some world class universities so far including Durham, UCL and Warwick. We wish Emma Burley, Shanice Collins, Fredrika Persson and Kieran Williams the best of luck with their Oxford and Cambridge interviews.