



## By Invitation Only!

Having previously been impressed by our talented students who performed at the John Willmott Memorial Service, Mr David Allan, Mayor of The Royal Town of Sutton Coldfield, personally requested that they provide musical entertainment as his guests arrived for the drinks reception prior to The Sutton Coldfield Community Awards Evening.

The evening took place at Sutton Coldfield Town Hall giving our students a wonderful opportunity to play at such a prestigious event in a beautiful and historical venue. Alfie,



Szymon, Rebekah and Jack played pieces of their own choosing for the guests both prior to and at the end of the evening.



Alfie, Syzmon and Jack were also successful in their auditions and were selected to play at the SSAT annual conference at The International Convention Centre in Birmingham city centre. They provided the entertainment for the evening drinks reception which

took place in the entrance to The ICC and The Symphony Hall.

Journalist, broadcaster, and former Conservative politician Michael Portillo was so impressed by the performances he asked the John Willmott Students to stay and entertain his guests too.

Mrs Tracey Peters, Headteacher, said "This is a huge achievement as students from across England submitted audition pieces to play at this event. It is a testament to the quality of our students' performances."



## Sixth Form Fund Raising



John Willmott Sixth Form arranged a series of fun activities aimed at raising money for the philanthropic charity 'Sepsis Trust', such as pizza at lunch and a cross-sixth form quiz. It was a resounding success as we raised approximately £210. The Sepsis Trust profoundly appreciated our effort and it was great to reward an organisation who fight against sepsis and protects so many people who are affected by it. In the previous week, the School Council ran assemblies in form

time to educate students about SEPSIS. The School Council hopes to continue raising



money for other non-profit organisations and we are keen to encourage future students to do the same. In addition, we encouraged students to dress up for charity in a Halloween

theme. Mrs Sharp, Head of Year for Sixth Form said, "This was a really great way to finish our first half term and to raise money for an important cause. Thank you to School Council for a wonderful afternoon of activities".



Matthew and Joshua  
School Captains

Our School Council continued their charity activities and raised money for Children in Need. As well as being able to wear their own clothes, the council ran a hot chocolate and toast stall during break and lunch. It was a great atmosphere bring Year 12 and 13 together to raise money. Particular thanks to Keira, Mika and Joshua for organising and running the toast and hot chocolate stall.



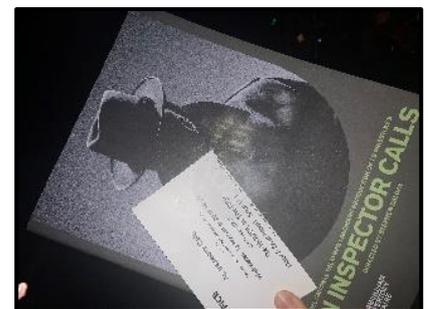
## An Inspector Calls – for Year 11



Just before Christmas a group of Year 11 students travelled by bus to Birmingham city centre to see a production of An Inspector Calls at Birmingham Repertory Theatre. The J B Priestley text is one that is studied for GCSE.



I thought the trip to see An Inspector Calls was very educational, I really enjoyed watching it and seeing something that we had read in class, on stage. It was funny as well as very entertaining. I liked the characters Sheila and Eric the most because they were very dramatic and at times funny the way they behaved. It was interesting to see how these characters changed and developed throughout the play. Watching the play really helped me remember my quotes for example "millions and millions of John Smiths and Eva Smiths" and bringing the characters



on stage to show they represented the working class. I now understand about the differences between the upper and lower classes. The setting was interesting, especially when the house collapsed to show that the Birlings had not learnt their lesson from the Inspector.

Ellie Year 11

## Well Done Cenk Year 13



Huge congratulations go to Cenk! Not only did he excel in his A Level results achieving A\*/ A\*/ A\*/ A and securing a place at Cambridge University, he has also been recognised by OCR as one of the 13 most talented A Level students in the West Midlands. In recognition he has been awarded an OCR bursary to help him make the most of his time at the University.

Saul Nasse, chief executive of OCR's Cambridge assessment said of the students, " They won places at Cambridge, so they are all academic high flyers but they have other talents too. Many have supported other students in their schools and carried out voluntary work in their local communities. There are also gifted

musicians, performing artists, sportspeople, debaters and science and maths competitions winners among them."

Well done Cenk, John Willmott School is incredibly proud of you!

## WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

If there is one thing we do well here at John Willmott, it's a bake sale. Our love of all things sweet tasting ensured the coffee and cake morning in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support was a great success. The house captains and ambassadors from Y11 and Sixth form organised a bake sale inviting the entire School to buy cakes during break and lunch time. The students and staff demonstrated their impressive baking skills with a selection of homemade cakes with the tables groaning under the weight of the delicious homemade goodies. To add an element of competition to the event, the houses competed to see who could raise the most amount of money for this fantastic cause. Overall, we raised a total sum of £285.74! An honorable victory to Wellington who sold the most and raised a great total of £111.59. Best cake was awarded to Courtney in Year 7. A huge thanks to everyone who attended and for being incredibly generous. It was a successful outcome and there was a real community feel as everyone tucked into their cakes raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. We're hoping to hold similar events in the future, as this is a great way to raise money for charity and any excuse to bake!



Sehr  
11ESM – Hurricane

## Lord Mayor's Mega Quiz

Recently, 6 members of the Sixth Form Council took part in the Lord Mayor's Mega Quiz. Fifty Four teams travelled to the University of Birmingham to answer questions in a quiz format and we were competing amongst the best in the city. With themes of science, literature, geography, the natural world to name a few, (and even cheese), we achieved 13th out of 54. Hosted in the Great Hall at The University of Birmingham, we enjoyed an afternoon surrounded by great architecture.

Overall we were happy with our placing but we would have preferred single digits!

Matthew  
Year 13



## Geography Field Trips

The Year 11 Geographers completed their statutory field trips this term. The first field trip to Carding Mill Valley focused on the changing characteristics of a river. Students had the opportunity to collect data and see the dramatic and beautiful scenery of the Long Mynd. The second field trip to Birmingham city centre focused on the recent regeneration projects in Birmingham. The data collected will show the positive impacts that the regeneration schemes have had on Birmingham. The fieldwork experiences will help support the students in completing their examinations successfully in the summer.

## Meeting Gavin Wade

GSCE, Photography and A-level students recently had the privilege of meeting Gavin Wade, an award-winning artist-curator, influential public gallery director of Eastside Projects and producer and curator of world-class public art, exhibition making, writing, and publishing.



Gavin Wade is also a part of the speakers for school who “help state schools access the top opportunities for their young people through inspiring **school talks** and eye-opening **work experience placements**, entirely **free of charge**.”

Gavin Wade came in to talk about the art world and the endless possibilities the art world holds to help inspire us and tell us that there are endless things we can do with our talent. Before meeting Gavin Wade, I had never really thought about a career in the art world and doing art every day except from the fact I knew I wanted to do something

where I could express myself creatively. Gavin Wade talked about everything that he has done in the art world; turning crazy sculptures into an office, creating different styles of kiosk, originally from Dudley zoo and installing that kiosk in different styles across the world. He also has his own publishing company, gets paid to paint buildings and much more cool stuff! Gavin has literally travelled the world to deliver art pieces while getting paid - this totally inspired me!

When Gavin explained that you don't have to do just one set thing in the art world, that all types and styles of art, like sculptures, building designs, books, films and fashion are involved that was when I became inspired. I hated the thought of doing the same thing every day for the rest of my life but Gavin said he does random crazy things all the time like having weird offices or designing quirky sculptures.

After Gavin's presentation, some friends and I looked at some of his work like his upcycled books and his own comic books which he wrote himself. They were unique and I don't think I have seen a book like that before. Gavin and I also talked about his art gallery and when it's open as I would like to visit live in that experience as I have never been to one. We also got talking about how my friends skate and that I'm learning at the minute. Gavin became really interested in this as he is planning to make the side of his gallery into a skate board rank and asked for mine and my friend's information so that if he does he can invite us to take part.

I loved meeting Gavin, he really inspired me and opened so many doors for me. When talking to him at the end and him wanting to stay in contact it made me feel like I had made a connection into the art world already.

Bradey  
Year 10

## Yoga Session for Sixth Form



We were pleased to welcome Jo Wilson again from Fuel and Flow to deliver a yoga session during LORIC for our Year 12 and 13 students. Yoga is excellent for both mind and body helping us focus and be calm. Students really enjoyed it and some have decided to do more out of school as a result of the visit.

Takudzwa in Year 13 said he enjoyed having an hour doing yoga, 'it allowed me to stretch my body and afterwards I felt peaceful and relaxed'.

## Art

Our students have produced some fabulous artwork so far this term! We just felt the need to share!



Year 8 Mexican Theme



Food Glorious Food Year 9



Portraits by Year 10

## **Nous aurons toujours Paris – We'll always have Paris**

Last term, 26 Year 10 students and 10 Sixth Form students spent four, fun-filled days exploring all the highlights that Paris has to offer. The group travelled by coach and ferry, arriving at the Hotel Premiere Classe Bussy on Friday evening where we settled in, ready for the busy days ahead.

Saturday was a day of culture. We visited the viewing platform of the city's tallest sky scraper, although the early morning mist gave us only teasing views of the sights below. We continued exploring on foot, wondering around Luxembourg Gardens and taking in the café culture, climbing up to the Basilica of Sacre-Coeur de Montmatre, a spot of inevitable tourist shopping, and a celestial experience in the 3-D auditorium of the Planetarium at the Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie Museum. One very accommodating restaurant owner managed to seat us, without a pre-booking, at a "table for 40", so we enjoyed an authentic lunch and fuelled up for the rest of the day. We even squeezed in an impromptu visit to the Eiffel Tower, to pose for a selfie or two. Fortuitously, the thronging Parisian crowds parted just for a moment to let us take this fabulous group shot!



Sunday was a firm favourite with staff and students alike. The day was spent between Disneyland's Hollywood Studios - where even the bravest screamed on the Tower of Terror - and the Magic Kingdom, with its iconic Cinderella Castle. Later that evening, we watched the breath-taking firework and light spectacular, which lit up the sky around the Castle.

Monday morning provided just enough time for a leisurely Bateaux Mouches boat-trip along the River Seine, past Notre-Dame Cathedral bathed in glorious sunshine, before we clambered back on the coach and rounded the Arc De Triomphe to begin our return journey home.

We left Paris with incredible memories, and a promise to visit the city again soon.

Mrs J Bradbury

## House Captains and Ambassadors 2019/20

Congratulations go to the students who have been interviewed for the House Captain positions. The successful applicants for House Captain are as follows:

Hurricane	Spitfire	Lancaster	Wellington
Sehr I	Grace S	Ella D	Harry O'M
Khadija A	William A	Jorge -W	Brydey F
Mawgen E		Harry W	Blessing S

The House Captains will be ably assisted in their duties by the successful applicants for House Ambassador posts as follows:

	Hurricane	Spitfire	Lancaster	Wellington
	Megan G	Nicole P	Shanice H	Mia C
	Rebecca B	Sapriya B	Emily L	Megan A
	Zainab A	Wiktoría P	Lauren F	
	Yuvraj S	Charlotte M	Sam W	Kiera K
	Sajan D	Jake B	Willow A	Martin G
	Romano E	Kofi H	Oliver A	Kanddies R
	Caden C	Aidy-Lea Y	Paris W	Heaven M
				Hadi J
	Muhammad M	Jacob D	Vijayasandru R-R	Aoife B
	Ellis W	Ruby H	Kayden F	Lily H
	Frankie W	Alicia S	Thomas W	Archie O'M
	Jack H	Tao T	Lily J	Thierry S
	Jaden J		Samantha H	
	Ta'Leyah R			
	Zak W			
	Tiylah B-B	Mariya H	Emarnee S	Daniel M
	Sienna S	Mason O'G	Muhammad Furqan A S	Tony N
	Nathan L	Eloise F	Zain A	Sherrell N
	Leo B			Charlie H
	Darren C			Tyrone I
		Shiraz H	Coco P	Neveah C-L
	Daniel P	Rosie O'G	Maya B	Lucy S
		Komaljeet K	Kai S	Grace W
			Skylah C	Mohammad A S A
			Igor D	Louciano L

## School to School - Building links between Jakarta and Birmingham

The work I did when in Indonesia was organised by the British Council and we had the opportunity to meet with and work with several schools in Jakarta, this was informative and the collaborative work was extremely useful. Our link School Cendekia is warm and friendly and they are so interested in finding out about the way in which we learn here in the UK. They all have a wonderful sense of humour and very enquiring minds; I am really looking forward to working in close partnership with them in the future. Their kindness and generosity is formidable and there is a lot I have learnt from the way in which they teach in Indonesia.

The objective of the programme is :

- To reach out to young people of both countries through a program that provides opportunities for an exchange of experience and knowledge
- To build partnerships in school in Birmingham and greater Jakarta where diversity and multicultural understanding are explored
- To raise young people's awareness of the social and environmental issues in order to prepare them to become agents of change
- To develop opportunities for teachers of both countries to build connections and share ideas

We look forward to taking some students from John Willmott School, to Indonesia in the near future and to start working on joint projects which is very exciting indeed! I will keep you posted as to the next part of this adventure in the next newsletter!



Our first meeting at The British Council Building in Jakarta. We had the opportunity to discuss the aims of this project and the benefits of working collaboratively in order to help create good Global Citizens.

I was privileged enough to meet with all of the staff at Cendekia School, where I showed them a short film I put together about John Willmott School. They were extremely impressed with the way in

which we model our teaching and learning...and they really love our uniform, especially the blazers!



I had the pleasure of observing an English lesson whilst at our link School. They were working on a Speaking and Listening task, and they had recorded some stories as a radio programme. There was a lovely learning environment and the students are always so happy. Everyone at the school was kind, warm and welcoming.

me questions about JWS! They stood and sang the National Anthem for me and then sang the Indonesian National Anthem...a very catchy tune, as it stayed in my head all week long!

Ms S Van Alderwegen  
SENCO

This was a

Year 11 PSHE lesson, and they were very keen to ask



## Year 7 Rain Warriors



The year 7 girls football team powered on through torrential downpours at Wyndley coming away with impressive results; drawing against Plantsbrook, winning against Bishop Walsh and beating Arthur Terry (for the second time).

Miss Smart said, 'The girls' progress over the last 4 weeks has been amazing considering 4 of them had never played a game before! Congratulations to all.

The girls have since gone on to represent John Willmott in the City finals at the Play Football Arena in Birmingham. The girls qualified for this tournament having won the Sutton Schools Tournament before Christmas.

All the girls, Sophie (C), Rosie, Alexia, Issy, Lily, Summer and Maddi, battled hard and showed amazing improvement considering some of the players had never played competitively before they joined JWS.

The team drew 3 games and lost 1 game which was very respectable against strong opposition. Player of the tournament was Rosie for excellent work rate and sportsmanship. She said 'It was hard work but an enjoyable day with all the girls doing themselves proud - we did better than we thought we were going to.'

That finishes football for this year and I look forward to joining back up with the girls when they are in Y8.

Miss Smart  
Teacher of PE



## UK Bebras Challenge 2019



The BEBRAS Challenge is a national competition to test computational thinking skills of students. 45 students across the school took part in a range of problem solving activities. All students will receive a certificate demonstrating their participation and achievement. 10 of the 45 students achieved a Distinction demonstrating a high level of skill. In their age groups Mason year 12, Jugraj year 10 and Jakub achieved the highest scores. Everyone who participated enjoyed the challenge and we will look to increase participation next year. Well done to everyone who took part!

Miss L Barton  
Teacher of Business IT and CS