

December 2018 - edition 4



OPPORTUNITY
INSPIRATION
SUCCESS



The newsletter for Wexham School

Duke of Edinburgh awards

A massive congratulations to Mahad, Burhan, Pavanvir, Sulaiman and Zaheer in year 13 for successfully completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh expedition over the rather (cold and wet) weekend.

Despite getting lost a couple of times, a few run ins with cows and the torrential rain; they continued to laugh and enjoyed the "type 2" fun. They really have done the Wexham School community proud.

Big thanks to Nathan and Darren for the moral support. Special mention to Darren's pop up gazebo for keeping us dry and rather smug.

For anyone who wants to get involved this year, please email me for further information. The more the merrier! - Miss. Thompson (Teacher of Science)



Go, Team Wexham



2 A-Level B grades secures Ikhlaq a place at Surrey Uni to read Economics



Varinder 5 9 grades at GCSE

Everyone at Wexham demonstrates a love of learning and truly values their education and the opportunities that this brings.

There is an ethic of excellence with high aspirations characterised in everything we do. As students move on to fulfil their dreams, they are each happy and proud of what they have achieved and appreciate the important role that their School has played in ensuring their future success.

This was truly showcased in some of the excellent destinations that our class of 2018 achieved.

Go team Wexham.



Hamdi off to read Educational Studies at Roehampton



Adam is off to read English Literature and International Relations at Reading University



Hassan Success grade 9 in Maths



Basira 2 B grades and 1 C grade. Off to read Law at Reading Uni



Amazing A grade for Hanni in A-Level Sociology



Rhyana is off to Portsmouth to read Sociology and Criminology



7 grade 8's for Marina at GCSE

"an ethic of excellence"

Accelerated Reader Champions Year 7

Accelerated Reader has "particularly positive effects" according to an independent study by the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) and Durham University.

"The internet-based programme increased the reading age of pupils by three additional months in just 22 weeks. The effect on low-income pupils was even greater, with their reading age improving by five additional months in the same amount of time."

At Wexham we provide all of our students (from years 7 through to sixth form) with this opportunity. Our new year 7's have responded really well to the programme and are further developing their love of reading.



Wexham Students Reaching for the stars

The Wexham School community recently staged their annual @Wexham Achievement Awards. The Awards are a formal ceremony celebrating the academic achievements of the students at Wexham School.

The event was well received and we had in excess of 160 friends and families at the event.

The Headteacher Award was presented to Nicholas for his special commitment and efforts.

Mr. Smith would like to thank all of the staff and students who helped in the organisation of the event and we are very much looking forward to the next event.



Playing at The Barn's opening

Three of our musically gifted students were invited by Miss. Mehat (Headteacher at Wexham Court Primary School) to participate and celebrate in the inaugural opening of their new school building, The Barn.

The students played music during the opening of The Barn, and also had the opportunity to meet the local MP Tan Dhesi and former Wexham School student Marcel Hodge, who currently holds the world record for being the fastest T20 sprinter of all time in the 60m and 100m respectively.



Finding out what university is all about

The Sutton Scholars programme aims to support students into university by providing early intervention.

Each programme lasts for a minimum of two years and allows students to find out what university is all about, visit the

campus, try out subjects and make well informed decisions to help their future education. Our year 9 students have been involved in the project and they recently presented to a range of people about their experiences.



Understanding street art

Wexham year 9 students have recently been studying about different types of urban street arts (Graffiti).

The students were thoroughly engaged by the project and developed their research skills while improving their key skills and understanding in preparation for their GCSE in Art.



Sports Leaders' growing confidence

During this half term a group of our Year 8 and 9 Junior Sports Leaders resumed their football coaching duties at one of our feeder Primary Schools, Wexham Court.

The event was well received by the key stage one students and they demonstrated great energy levels and enthusiasm.

Our leaders have grown in confidence during this opportunity and they are developing lifelong skills that they will retain throughout the rest of their lives and successful careers beyond.



Value and conservation at Kew

At Wexham we want to live in a world where plants and fungi are understood, valued and conserved. And that is exactly what a few of our students more recently were provided with the opportunity to do.



Our students discovered lots about the science while visiting the world-leading botanic gardens, Kew Gardens.

Our students enjoyed the practical hands on learning and were also blessed with such amazing weather.

Student Voice update

Student Voice is a forum where:

- ◆ Students help to set the direction of the school through policy and campaign proposals.
- ◆ Ideas are discussed, put forward to school-wide votes and their progress is reviewed.
- ◆ Student Officers are held

to account.

- ◆ Our recent campaigns have been well watched and a huge congratulations goes to all of our successful students who have successfully canvassed for what they believe in to improve the Wexham School community.



Creative fitness

Boot camp workouts can vary but generally include a fairly intense mix of strength training and aerobic elements. One boot camp workout might stress calisthenics while another stresses military-style drills.

In most cases, you can expect to do calisthenics, such as pullups, pushups, lunges and crunches, as well as drills and sprints. In essence, a boot camp workout is a type of interval training — bursts of intense activity alternated with intervals of lighter activity.

Our students were provided with the opportunity to take part in a bootcamp and absolutely loved it!

Field sketches in Boscombe Bay

In geography, we use field sketches to record information when studying places outside the classroom. They allow students to highlight and annotate the key features of the place being observed.

Field and photo sketches can also be used to illustrate students' stories and reports. Students can scan their images and use them in PowerPoint presentations.



This is a key skill required for the new specification GCSE geography and our year 9 geographers were provided with the opportunity to experience this live in action.



Staff spotlight**Staff spotlight**Staff spotlight

My name is Paulina O'Neill and I am in my 6th year of teaching at Wexham School.

I am originally from Toronto, Canada. I completed my Undergraduate Degree in Political Science and History at the University of Toronto. After completing my degree, I worked for the Premier of Ontario and Minister of Education in Communications and decided I wanted to change my career and become a teacher.

Teaching had always been a career I considered and I decided to complete my Bachelor of Education at the University of Ottawa.

After completing my post-secondary education, I moved to the United Kingdom and started my teaching career at Wexham School. I have always dreamed about living abroad and travelling throughout Europe. There were many agencies promoting teaching in the UK while I was at the University of Ottawa and I decided to take the opportunity and move to the United Kingdom. I feel that this has been one of the best decisions I have made in my lifetime and I am glad I am teaching at Wexham.

I love teaching geography because it

gives students insight into different countries around the world, challenges different countries face and how we can overcome those challenges. I also enjoy teaching about climate change, the environment and how to live a sustainable lifestyle. I feel that it is incredibly important for young people to learn about these topics so



they can understand the world around them and how to protect the environment.

I have had various roles at Wexham since starting my career. I have been the Leader of Travel and Tourism, the Assistant Leader for Humanities and I am currently the Leader of Geography and I have enjoyed each of these

FACT FILE:

- Favourite Colour: Red
- Favourite Season: Christmas!
- Favourite Number: 10
- Favourite TV series: Game of Thrones
- Fun fact: I have travelled to 25 countries across the world

roles. In addition to being a geography teacher, I have also loved being a form tutor. I was lucky to have a Brunel form group and see them through from Year 7 to Year 11. Seeing them grow into mature young adults was excellent and I am happy that the vast majority have continued their 6th form education at Wexham. I am excited to start this again with my new 7 Brunel tutor group and help them to achieve the best they possibly can in their studies so they have every opportunity available to them.

In my spare time I enjoy cooking, watching television and travelling to new places. I always try to travel somewhere new during half term.

I feel very fortunate to be part of the Wexham School community and look forward to continue teaching students for years to come.