NEWSLETTER



Summer 2023









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The Award for MAKING A DIFFERENCE SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

SILVER AWARD

In February this year we entered our school for the Pearson National Teaching Awards and we are thrilled to announce that our school was shortlisted from over 200 schools that entered. This is an incredible achievement and a testament to the hard work and dedication of our students, teachers, staff and, of course, your input as parents/carers.

However, the good news does not end there, we have now been shortlisted again as Silver winners and will attend an awards ceremony in November to find out if we have won Gold!

The Pearson Secondary School of the Year award recognises exceptional secondary schools in the UK that have demonstrated outstanding academic achievements, innovative teaching practices and a commitment to supporting students to reach their full potential.

The selection process for the award involves a rigorous assessment of the school's academic results, teaching quality, extra-curricular activities and community involvement. This is done by an expert panel of judges who have extensive experience in the education sector and they interviewed our staff and students for over two hours!

Winning the award is an amazing achievement and we are immensely proud of the progress our school has made over the past few years. It is possible that we may not win the final award but being recognised as one of the top 5 schools nationally from 4,190 secondary schools nationally is something to be proud of.

The Pearson Secondary School of the Year award is a highly prestigious award and winning it would be a tremendous honour for our school. It would not only be a recognition of our achievements but also a validation of our mission to provide the best possible education and support for our students.

We would like to thank you, parents and carers, for your continued support and for entrusting us with your child's education. We are proud to have you as part of our school community and we will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that our students are supported in being the best they can be.

We have also been nominated for the TES staff well-being school of the year and our Principal has been nominated for two awards; the Pearson's Headteacher of the Year and the TES Headteacher of the Year award, both of which are nationally recognised. We look forward to updating you on the outcome of these awards in due course.



The Award for HEADTEACHER OF THE YEAR IN A SECONDARY SCHOOL

SILVER AWARD

SILVER WINNERS













On Wednesday, 21st June, we announced our latest achievements and successes to our staff, students, parents, dignitaries and community members. The Deputy Lieutenant presented the 2 trophies to various groups, which make our school so special. It was a fantastic day of celebrations!

It's amazing to have been recognised on a national scale for the difference we make. These awards are for our community.

Year 7 Trip to Hunstanton

All Year 7s went on a paid trip to Hunstanton for the day! You should have heard the "wows" as we turned the corner and saw the sea! As part of their #6YearJourney our Year 7s experienced the British seaside. They loved running around on the beach, making sand castles, finding shells and also enjoyed a scavenger hunt around the local area.

They also enjoyed an afternoon at the SeaLife Centre Learning all about marine life, from far and wide.







Year 9 Trip to Chatsworth House

As part of our #6YearJourney all 300 of our Year 9s went on a paid trip to Chatsworth House. An opportunity for them to experience the countryside and a different environment. There was lots for our students to see there. They took a tour of the gardens, saw the famous fountain and the sweeping landscapes and even fed some sheep! They enjoyed sketching the natural beauties that they could see around us and loved the art and history inside the house.







Curve Performance

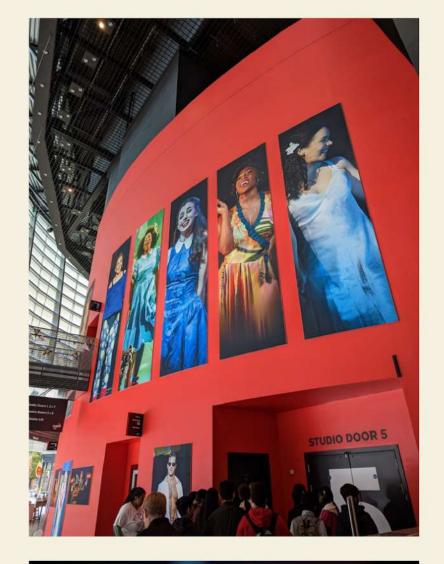
Our students had an amazing experience at the Curve this term! They took a tour through the Studio Space, took part in a tech rehearsals, met new friends from Moat Community College, rehearsed an entire 20-minute performance and performed in front of an invited audience.

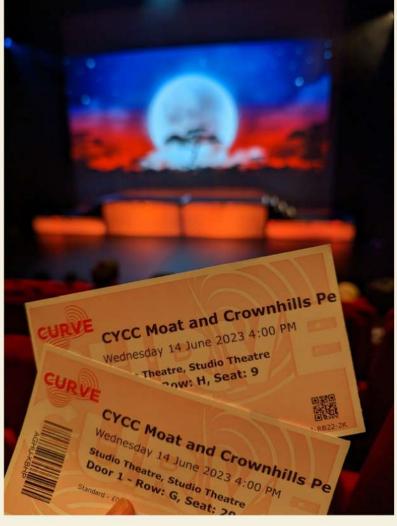
The day started by meeting the students from Moat who had been devising their own scenes to include in the performance. This was the first time they had seen what the whole performance was going to look like, or worked with students from another school, but the final performance was performed so confidently that it was hard to tell that the performers were from two different schools!

After playing some warm up games and rehearsing their scenes, the students took part in a technical rehearsal, practising with lights, music and sound effects. After lunch and a dance rehearsal, they were ready to perform in front of the audience.

The performance went incredibly well and both audience and performers had a great time. The atmosphere was wonderful; the students have made new friends and had an incredible experience today.

Ms Bradbury says "I am so incredibly proud of the way our students have conducted themselves today; they've been the most excellent ambassadors for our school and our subject, and are keen to take part in more performances in the future."





Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

This half term a group of our Year 10 students completed their Bronze Award Duke of Edinburgh expedition. A fantastic experience for them, which has developed their characters. They showed resilience and determination and all successfully completed it- well done!













International Women's Day in Engineering Trip

This half term a group of our Year 10 students took part in the International Women's Day in Engineering at Leicester University.

During the trip they got the opportunity to work in groups to design a working balloon car.

One of our groups won the race with the balloon car they had designed called 'Lightening Mcqueen'.

Another one of our groups won the prize for the best team name!

Well done girls, we're glad you enjoyed your day out and hope you are inspired!



Graduation Success for Young Scholars

A huge congratulations to our UCL scholars, who have successfully completed a challenging programme of independent online study with University College London. The students that were selected in January did extremely well to gain a place on this very competitive programme. Since then, they have completed reading, writing, speaking and listening skills by working through a variety of curriculum-based activities expertly designed by the National Literacy Trust. They then put these skills to use in their final assignment, where they created a speech on a topic of their choosing. On Tuesday, 27th June there was an online event to celebrate their achievements.

These students should feel incredibly proud of themselves for showing the resilience and independence needed for self-directed study. The online university tutors gave excellent feedback about the conduct and contribution of these students. Miss Punia, an English teacher, introduced the programme and oversaw the process. "I have been very impressed by the students' maturity and ability to self-regulate. This was a demanding programme, with a weekly obligation, as well as some sessions in the school holidays. The commitment, independence and resilience developed during this programme will benefit students as they embark on their GCSE courses next year, and beyond."



#SUCCESSDAY2023





We believe in Commitment: doing what it takes for as long as it takes. To achieve the highest score the pupils must have good Organisation, Uniform, Respect, Punctuality, Attitude, Class/homework and Equipment. (Our Pace) Nearly 300 students have managed to be consistently committed to all aspects of school life. #SuccessDay included, a BBQ, bouncy castles, sumo wrestling, obstacle courses, ice cream and much more! It's fantastic to see these students enjoying themselves. What's even nicer is how grateful and appreciative these students were "This is the best day ever".

YEAR 11 LEAVERS













This half term we held the annual Year 11 leavers' celebration. It was a fantastic afternoon celebrating the class of 2023! It was a lovely send off for our Year 11s. Firstly they enjoyed an assembly where 'most likely to' medals were handed out to students after a vote. Their form tutors gave them farewell speeches, they then enjoyed pizza and treats before receiving a yearbook courtesy of the school. After which, they walked out to music playing and collected an ice cream as they left. We hope that they left with the parting message that "The most important thing is your character". We thank them for the last 5 years and wish them the best of luck from all the staff here.

Art Corner



An outstanding Wassily Kandinsky presentation page, an incredible commitment to learning outside of the lesson! H Momin



An outstanding Wassily Kandinsky presentation page, an incredible commitment to learning outside of the lesson! Habiba Momin



Year 9 have been looking at Pop Art with a focus on Andy Warhol's artwork. These students have presented their work in a creative and eye-catching manner. H. Abowath



Can you spot the real Pablo Picasso cubist portrait from the student's replica study? A. Rasiklal



Can you spot the real Pablo Picasso cubist portrait from the student's replica study? D. Roy



Year 7 have been exploring natural forms by creating 3D forms based on insects. Z.Adam



Year 7 have been exploring natural forms by creating 3D forms based on insects. M.Patel



Challenge
yourself with
these visual
crosswords,
what level can
you reach?

SLEEP OUT FOR THE HOMLESS











The purpose of this event was to give our students and staff the experience of what it is like to sleep out rough for one night in the cold and not have a bed to sleep in, or a roof over your heads.

Sleeping out can be an everyday experience for some people, sometimes through no fault of their own they end up being made homeless and living on the streets. Sleeping out helped educate us on what it might be like for a homeless person. It will also assist us with gaining an understanding of our local responsibilities as well as providing an opportunity to contribute positively to society. We collected donations of clothes, blankets and toiletries which The Bridge Homelessness to Hope charity.



