# Mulberry Schools Trust Fortnightly CEO News Bulletin

# A message from the CEO



I hope everyone had a restful Easter break. I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all staff who delivered Year 11 and Year 13 intervention

sessions. These efforts are sure to have been enormously beneficial to our young people as they enter their final half term.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Shanaz Jameson, Jill Tuffee, and Mary Davies for taking students to Mexico as part of the Global Girl Leading international study tour. The trip was hosted by the Colegio Carol Baur School and focused on the Model United Nations conference, BIMUN. This international event simulates the work of the United Nations, and our students met with UN Diplomats and participated in debates within committees on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. In addition to the academic experience, students had the opportunity to learn about the culture



of Mexico and share insights on key priorities related to girls' education, voice, and leadership.

We're delighted that Mulberry Academy London Dock continues to receive national acclaim, most



recently shortlisted for Building Project of the Year (+£20m) at the 2025 Constructing Excellence Awards, led by Kier. This follows its 2024 Brick Award win, led by Architype. These honours celebrate not only the school's striking design but the successful collaboration between our delivery partners to realise a building that serves students, staff and the wider community. The awards reflect our shared ambition to create an inspiring, high-quality learning environment that supports outstanding achievement and a strong sense of belonging for all.

This week, Mulberry Arts hosted the Rightful Place Conference at Mulberry Academy London Dock, and it was a tremendous success. A huge thank you to the Arts Team for supporting our Year 9, 10 and 12 students to research, plan and deliver a meaningful, professional event.

Just before half term, we were also delighted to host Bruce Crowther, Deputy Director of Estates for the Department for Education, along with his team, who held their strategic away day at Mulberry Academy London Dock.

As many colleagues may know, Primary National Offer Day was Wednesday, 16th April. There are still places available at Mulberry Canon Barnett, so please do share the Admissions link below with friends and contacts:

Mulberry Canon Barnett Admissions

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#### **Enrichment update**

Our new school councillors met the CEO of End Sexism in Schools, Debbie Brazil and took part in a research focus group, for the creation of End Sexism in School's Youth Advisory Board.

This month we are also launching our first virtual cross-cultural exchange programme with our Sixth form students and young female students from Victory Afghanistan. Born out of the Let Afghan Girls Learn! campaign launched in the Houses of Parliament earlier in March, our students read letters they had composed to young girls in Afghanistan, in response to the banning of female education past the

age of 12. This spearheaded our own culturalexchange programme where our Year 12 students will be getting to know their global peers over four weeks online.



#### **Careers updates**

This term, the whole school took part in our annual Careers Fair, designed to widen students' aspirations and ambitions. Students met with a range of providers, from top universities such as UCL and King's College London to major employers like the BBC. They engaged in conversations to better understand the pathways to higher education and diverse careers. Feedback from the providers was overwhelmingly positive, highlighting the students' enthusiasm and the value of the event in supporting their future plans.

Our mentoring programmes with KPMG and Clifford Chance are also underway. Year 9 students are taking part in the KPMG mentoring scheme, which supports them in developing skills such as CV building and gaining an understanding of how a leading corporate firm operates. Students have also had the opportunity to attend two in-person trips to KPMG offices for a firsthand insight into the world of work.

# Mulberry UTC Where learning works



# Performing Arts See Hadestown!

Just before half term, our Year 10 and Year 12 Performing Arts students went 'way down under the ground' to Hadestown! Students really enjoyed visiting the West End and seeing this critically acclaimed new musical. They left inspired and energised to take what they learned and use these new skills for their own upcoming performances. Another amazing and useful trip that our students will absolutely make the most of!





#### **T-Level Health Mocks** Mulberry UTC T-Level Health students recently participated in a mock assessment in our hospital ward with other T-Level Health students from nearby colleges. Connecting with their peers was excellent networking practice for building relationships within their sector. They were also able to take away critical feedback from Barts Health NHS Trust colleagues and implement it to ensure a successful

outcome of their practices. This was an incredibly helpful hands-on and practical way for these students to prepare for their exams.



# Mulberry Academy Shoreditch





#### House Awards ceremony

On Wednesday 26th March, the House team had their annual House Awards celebration. Over 50 students were awarded for their engagement in House events, representation of the MAS Whole School Values and their overall brilliant attitude. The audience was entertained by the MAS band and speeches that encapsulate the MAS Values of 'Ambition, Inclusion and Community' from the House Captains. Well done to them all for amazingly expressing the importance of each of these! To share the evening with over 100 family members made the event feel really special. The House Team looks forward to an exciting upcoming summer term!



#### **Societies Easter egg hunt**

On Wednesday 2nd April, Year 9 students from Mulberry School for Girls, Mulberry Woodside and Mulberry Stepney Green, joined MAS students in an Easter egg hunt as a celebration for their year in the Societies. They answered questions relevant to their Society to collect chocolate eggs and, after gathering six, they won a larger egg. They then enjoyed a short video about their year and had drinks and cake to end the celebrations.

### Mulberry Stepney Green Maths,

## Visit to Senate House

Year 12 Elephant Group students visited Senate House to learn about metacognition for exam preparation. They heard from a guest speaker who shared his journey from a disadvantaged background to success in the tech industry. The trip also included a tour of UCL and a personal statement workshop on applying to Russell Group and Oxbridge universities.



#### Careers event at Amazon

Year 10 students attended the Inspiring Careers event at Amazon's office, organized by The Female Lead. They heard from female leaders across various careers and participated in workshops on Amazon's apprenticeship programmes and the pathway to becoming a female pilot at British Airways.



### **Geography field trip**

Year 12 A Level Geography students visited Minehead, Somerset, for a fourday compulsory fieldwork exercise as part of their non-examined assessment (NEA). Students developed their own research questions, planned investigations, collected data, and conducted analysis to support their studies.



## Mulberry Wood Wharf Primary

# **Exploring art and artists**

In Art, Year 1 explored the vibrant and imaginative works of Paul Klee, focusing on his piece Castle and Sun. They learned how Klee used bold colours, simple shapes, and playful lines to express emotions and ideas. Inspired by his unique style, Lion and Panda class created their own artworks, experimenting with colour and abstract forms. The final pieces reflect a joyful interpretation of Klee's techniques, showing creativity and personal expression.





**Gingerbread Man costumes** 

Reception welcomed parents into school for a fun and creative costume-making workshop in preparation for our upcoming Gingerbread Man performance on 8th May. It was wonderful to see such creativity, collaboration, and excitement as children and parents worked together to bring their costume ideas to life. We can't wait to see them on stage!

# Year 2 football

Year 2 have been enjoying football in PE, focusing on developing and refining key skills such as passing, dribbling, careful tackling, and effective teamwork. The children have shown great enthusiasm and improvement as they practise working together on the pitch.

# **Mulberry**

#### Horticultural workshop by Eat Wood Green

In the final weeks of spring term. 45-50 Year 7 students took part in a horticultural workshop led by Eat Wood Green, part of the Black Rootz collective. Funded by Haringey Council, the project teaches food growing and sustainability while linking to core subjects. Students planted sunflowers, coriander, and mustard seeds, which they can bring back to the school garden once grown. The hands-on sessions explored the importance of sustainable growing and biodiversity. Students showed great enthusiasm and teamwork throughout. Huge thanks to the Eat Wood Green team for an inspiring and educational day.



# Year 10s investigate DNA samples at Royal Institution

Just before the Easter break, some of our Year 10 students visited the laboratories of the Royal Institution of Great Britain, stepping into the role of clinical bacteriologists to investigate DNA samples from new outbreaks of bacterial diseases. During this daylong workshop, the students used cutting edge DNA technology to learn about the structure of DNA and bacterial evolution.

They analysed DNA evidence and decided what advice to give their colleagues at the scene of the outbreak. The day allowed our students to immerse themselves in real-world

cutting-edge science and was a truly enriching experience for our young scientists.



### Praise week sweet reward

To conclude April's Praise Week, the much-anticipated waffle van rolled into school, serving up delicious treats for our lucky Praise Week Golden Ticket winners. These students earned their reward by demonstrating outstanding kindness, pride, and respect throughout the week. With a choice of toppings to pile onto their freshly made waffles, the winners celebrated their welldeserved recognition in the sweetest way possible. It was a fantastic way to acknowledge those who go above and beyond in our school community.

# **Mulberry** Canon Barnett Primary



Libraries for Primaries...new chapters begin

This year, we are thrilled to be working with the National Literacy Trust as part of their Libraries for Primaries initiative. We believe that reading opens doors for our children, and this project is helping us transform our library space to make reading even more accessible and exciting. We were overjoyed to recently receive more than 500 brandnew books, bringing fresh adventures, knowledge, and inspiration to our students. Four wonderful volunteers from Bloombergs who are supporting the library transformation.

#### St George's Day assembly... stories, books and bravery

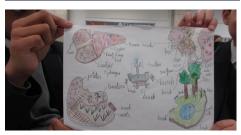
Last Wednesday, Mireia, our English Lead, led a special assembly to celebrate St George's Day. She shared how the day is celebrated in her home community of Catalonia, Spain, where St George, known as St Jordi, is honoured with the tradition of giving roses and exchanging books. We learnt that St George is the patron saint of several countries, including England, Catalonia, Ethiopia, and Portugal. A huge thank you to Mireia for leading such an inspiring and thoughtful assembly.



## New clubs launching...fun and creativity after school

We're excited to announce three new clubs launching this term: Gardening Club, Lego Club, and Jewellery Club. A big thank you to Shuma for organising these wonderful opportunities, and to all the staff who are kindly giving their time to support the activities.

# Mulberry



#### From roots to the roof

Our STEM Club students have just found out that they are finalists in The Big Bang UK Young Scientists & Engineers Competition, nominated for the Teamwork Award. The students who meet weekly in their Wonder 7 after school club, have created a school roof garden to improve the urban environment and promote sustainability. They researched roof gardens, designed detailed plans, and built 2D, virtual, and 3D models using recycled materials. Through evaluations and testing, they identified necessary materials, researched funding grants, and developed practical solutions to challenges. This project will eventually lead to a real garden that provides healthy food for the school community.



Year 7 had a wonderful day zooming around an inflatable race track in electric battery-powered go karts, measuring their speed and evaluating their success in navigating the course alongside their peers. Before the race day, they developed their understanding of anthropometrics and ergonomics on products and vehicles, and made predictions about their journeys in their Science lessons. They then reflected on aerodynamics in their lessons afterwards. Students enjoyed the opportunity to work together in teams to understand the importance of STEM in their everyday life and consider what this might look like in the future.



# Costume and set design for theatre

During the Easter break, MPAA students attended a design workshop led by Afsana Begum which introduced them to the role of set and costume designers and how designs for theatre productions are developed. Taking one of the classic Grimms' Tales stories, students created a vision board using images from magazines and online to represent the themes, mood, and locations of their play which enabled them to conceptualise their design ideas. Choosing one of the locations in the play, they then used their vision board to create a model box, a 3D representation of their stage design as well as a costume for one of their characters. The workshop concluded with students presenting their design ideas for their plays to award winning theatre designers ULTZ and Sadeysa Greenaway-Bailey. Both were very impressed with the creativity and depth of thinking shown by the students.







## **Mulberry** Schools Trust



#### **Network meetings**

Mulberry Network meetings took place in schools across the Trust earlier this month, subject, pastoral, SEND and safeguarding leaders spent time together discussing and sharing assessment frameworks and marking approaches, impactful practices in attendance and punctuality, current challenges and changes and ideas for our Trust-wide INSET day in June. These meetings are a valuable time for leaders in subjects and pastoral areas to meet together and enjoy talking shop with one another. We would like to thank all our network leads and the T&L Network for hosting these opportunities for leaders in our schools.



# **Marathon congratulations**

Congratulations to Nizam Uddin, our Mulberry Schools Trust Trustee, who completed the London Marathon last Sunday, raising funds for the Mulberry Schools Foundation. We thank Nizam for his dedication, resilience and hard work. Read more **here** 



Congratulations to Mulberry Academy Shoreditch Year 10 for winning 'Spirit of Greenpower' award at Goodwood on Sunday.

