



FoQus

Spring 2016



ACADEMY

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A Message from the Principal



Q3 Academy is a vibrant and exciting place to be and I hope you can feel the energy as you read the latest edition of FoQus.

As we reflect on the many successes

we also remember Grace Payne who sadly passed away at the end of last term. Grace was an inspirational lady, giving generously of her time, and her contribution cannot be underestimated, indeed the very name Q3 was her idea. Along with our Sponsor, Eric Payne we will ensure that Grace's vision continues to breathe energy into all of our work.



The loss of Zoe Shapiro shocked the whole community, and the many tributes to her, served as a reminder of her popularity. Our students have raised funds to purchase a bench in her memory.

Our new Vice Principal/ Head of School, Mr Arnall has settled into the Q3 family. He brings a wealth of experience and will begin to take on more of the day to day operation of Q3 Great Barr as I start to work across both academies.



Q3 Langley will open in September 2016 and Mr Lee will take on the role of Head of School at Langley.

This term also sees the launch of our Pillars of Excellence which will further reinforce our commitment to ensuring 'nothing less than the best for every student.'

Finally I would like to recognise the collective efforts of our students and staff as they continue their preparation for the forthcoming external examinations. A vast amount of time is being invested and we are confident that their dedication will be rewarded when the results are published in August.

With best wishes for the new term.

Dr Caroline Badyal
Chief Executive/Principal

SIXTH FORM

A dynamic start to 2016



It is with mixed emotions that we say a fond farewell to Mr Wiltshire. We wish him continued success and happiness as he moves to take a Headship in Buckinghamshire.

He joined Q3 in September 2012 and has played a central role in the Academy's continued Pursuit of Excellence.

I have been appointed as Director of Sixth Form and this will ensure a seamless transition from Mr Wiltshire for the start of the Summer Term. I am very excited about taking the position and look forward to working with staff and students alike. My expectations are high and I look forward to sharing our success with you over the coming months.

The summer term will bring the external examinations and students are all working hard settling into their revision timetables as the Easter break begins. We will continue to provide additional after school and holiday revision sessions to support students as they prepare for their examinations.

This term has been tinged with great sadness. February saw the tragic loss of one of our students following a road traffic accident. Zoe Shapiro joined us in the Sixth Form and was a very popular member of the student body who had a bright future ahead of her. Students have coped exceptionally well during this difficult period of time.

Zoe demonstrated exemplary Academy ethos and it is a credit to her that the Sixth Form students have worked incredibly hard to raise funds for Acorns Hospice and the Zoe Shapiro Memorial Fund. Zoe made a huge impression on everyone who came into contact with her and she will be greatly missed. - Mrs V Noakes

Sixth Formers get a taste of Uni life

We hear from two of our students who got a glimpse at life at Oxford and Cambridge during a conference in Edgbaston

“We explored the cricket grounds for a while and collected some ‘prospectus’, and were inspired by lecturers who were so passionate about their subjects that the young people in the room were excited by their enthusiastic vibes. You couldn’t help but get excited too!

I chose to attend mini lectures on Psychology, English, and MFL as I hope to do Psychology and Linguistics at university." - *Chloe Wescott*

“ At the Oxbridge Conference in Edgbaston, I obtained a lot of useful information regarding studying at the two most prestigious universities in the UK.

It was a fantastic opportunity, I attended a variety of seminars ranging from how to apply to Oxbridge and student life there to the range of courses on offer. I found it invaluable as it changed my perceptions of Oxbridge universities and opened my eyes to the financial help and world-class education I could receive if I apply there.

I am now aware of how to make my application the best in order to be admitted to either of the Oxbridge universities and it has certainly helped me to pinpoint what course I want to study, which is Human, Political and Social Sciences at Cambridge.

Overall it was an immensely rewarding day and I'd like to thank Mrs Noakes for organising for me to take advantage of this great opportunity." - *Marcus Boyle*

JETs Update



Five new members of the Junior Executive Team have been appointed to replace the students who are leaving for university this year. We would like to say a big thank you to the outgoing JETs: Thom Goodwin, Kieran Rowe, Catherine Brisland, Emma Humphries and Alistair Caswell for all their hard work, determination and enthusiasm.

The new JETs are Luka Djordjic, Lewis Bradbury, Simran Paul, Chloe Wescott and Megann Ford. We have every confidence that they will be equally as successful in their roles.

The JETs are a bridge between Students and Learning Consultants specialising in Enterprise, Charity & Community, Student Voice, the Environment and Leadership Development.

The JETs are currently running a Homework Club for Year 7 students every Tuesday, 3.05pm - 4.00pm

Sponsor's Dinner *by Mrs E Griffiths*

This year's Sponsor's Dinner was tinged with sadness as well as celebration with the passing of our Sponsor Grace Payne and the tragic loss of one of our Sixth Form students Zoe Shapiro.

The Sponsor Eric Payne made reference to Grace in his speech to over 200 students, parents, staff and invited guests where he reminisced about Grace's warm charm and ability to interact with guests; she was a guide and inspiration to him during such events. He talked about character education, confidence and communication skills being the cornerstone of what all young people need to accomplish to succeed.

The Principal, Dr Caroline Badyal also spoke very fondly of Zoe and her determination and resilience, her creative focus and her ambitions for the future. She thanked Mr Wiltshire and congratulated him on his promotion to Headship in Buckinghamshire.

She spoke about the right to the best educational provision for every child and that all children should be free from harm and raised in a nurturing environment. She urged the students to network, build confidence and relationships for the future.

The speaker for the evening Paul McGee did not disappoint. He encouraged all present to get the best out of life, do things in life that make you feel uncomfortable and take risks to succeed. He questioned where life's opportunities really lie and urged all to go outside of their comfort zone.

He talked about his struggles with ME and his philosophy around SUMO (Shut Up, Move On) being more about shutting up that voice of self-doubt and answering the inner critic to "Push More Doors."

He ended his talk with encouragement to succeed and not just in career but in family and life and urged everyone to go MAD (Make A Difference)!



Mock Trial Competition *by Miss L Chamberlain*

On Saturday 19th March, 2016, 14 students represented Q3 Academy at the Birmingham heat of the Citizenship Foundation's Mock Trial Competition.

They competed incredibly well against more experienced schools with much older students.

Dressed in 'character', students presented a case they had been studying for the past few months to real life Magistrates. Students took on roles including Lawyers, Witnesses, Defendant, Legal Advisor, Court Artist, Court Reporter and an Usher who, for the second year in a row was awarded full marks.

Support from Q3 Academy parents was overwhelming and it was clearly an interesting day for those who were spectating.

It was an enjoyable day testing the confidence and knowledge of all students involved. Feedback from both parents and students has been complimentary and is something I believe our students will remember in years to come. The preparation for the competition has allowed students to not only understand the importance of team work but to comprehend different roles within UK courts as well as explore their potential for a career within Law. Students conducted themselves in a professional manner and I was proud to watch our team representing Q3 Academy.





ARTS COMPANY



The Arts company continue to impress me.

Our attendance has been a real strength and is currently 96.8% since September, with many students still on 100%.

I would like to thank all parents and carers for their continued support. If I can ask if you have any new contact numbers, can you please ring Miss Davis the Arts Company Administrator who will be delighted to have these from you. She will then ensure our Academy records are up to date. - *Miss J Lones-Greaves*

Achievements

Madison Smart

Every Monday for an hour in the evening Madison has now been given the opportunity to train her own group of children as part of her role as coach at Walsall Football Club. Well done Madison.

Ryan Dorkins

We would like to wish Ryan all the best for his black belt grade in Taekwondo, which he is doing this month.

Tayla Cattell

Every Tuesday after school Tayla attends training with her dance group called 'Mini Shakers' She has already competed in 5 competitions and came first in two of them. We wish Tayla all the best for her next competition.

Lydia Willis

Lydia has been dancing for nearly 9 years and she has mastered her back handspring and is now a member of the 'Arco Group Dance' she has been awarded over 28 medals. We would like to wish Lydia all the best for her next competition, watch this space for more news on her progress.

In the

SPOTLIGHT



Sophie Bayliss *Year 7*

“ Last month our English group were given a challenge to do a story board on ‘The Railway Children’ for homework.

We had finished reading this book which was really good, so I went home and researched the online copy of the book to assist me with the quotes that I could use, then I used these quotes to help me back up what I had written.

In total it took about 1 hour 45 minutes. I added pictures to represent what I had written then coloured them in.

What I enjoyed the most was analysing the text. Our teacher collected our work and a week later she announced to the whole class that I had won the competition which was brilliant.

I was quite surprised but happy I had won, English is one of my favourite lessons.”

Head Start *by Mr M Kulyna*

A group of our Year 10 students visited Villa Park as part of their Social Enterprise course. The visit consisted of a tour of the ground where students got to learn about the inner workings of both the business and the football club.

All the students were a credit to the Academy in terms of their behaviour and enthusiasm. The students will now use some of the insight they have gained in developing and promoting their own business ideas.

Kickstart *by Miss S Beck*

It has been another wonderful term of Kickstart activities. The Art department have supported students in making cultural masks and recycled animals. These have also been on display in the Design Centre for all students, staff and visitors to admire.

In PE there has been strong competition between the Year 8 groups and the Year 7 groups in games of dodgeball, Danish longball, capture the flag and hockey.

Mrs Dunn's gardening group are the reason for all the beautiful flowers as you enter the Academy. Students have learnt to plant bulbs and nurture the growth of the sunny daffodils.

The reading groups have been challenged to read specific age related texts and the Year 7 reading group have produced front covers for their favourite books.

Mr Kundu has been challenging the Year 7 STEM group through problem solving activities such as bridge building to demonstrate what the brain is and what it does.



Q3 Community *by Mr D Pope*

The local community in the Q3 neighbourhood continues to be supportive of the Academy and its wider influence in and around Great Barr.

The bi-monthly Lunch Club event is very popular and well attended and enjoys a breadth of entertaining speakers from many backgrounds. The Christmas Lunch was very successful with over 100 guests in attendance.

One of the Committee members is involved in a reading programme with some of our students and just recently, another member constructed three 'bug hotels' for placement in and around the grounds, to supplement the work being done with a particular group of students.

Community members are currently helping to support the development of the Peace garden – an initiative designed to designate and develop a small piece of land into an area for reflection and meditation. The recent tragic death of one of our students served as a reminder of how important such a place can be.

Future plans include further lunches and an afternoon tea party before the end of the Summer term. (Further details on our website or directly from Mrs May: 0121 358 6186 Ext. 1469.)



Progress on all fronts

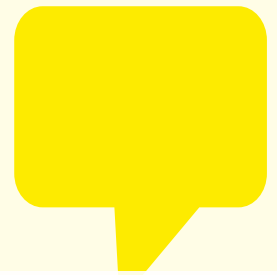
Since the beginning of this academic year, the Cadet detachment has grown considerably. There is always the danger that an increase in quantity can lead to decrease in quality, but in this instance the opposite is true.

With 18 cadets representing the detachment at the 2015 ACF Staffordshire and West Midlands (North) Christmas Camp, we had far more cadets present than ever before. We did not just contribute numbers though; the Q3 detachment came home with the award for most improved detachment of 2015. This is no less than the detachment deserved, considering the work that has been put in by cadets and adults alike.

SI Leith stated that he was “proud, but not surprised” to see the detachment recognised in this way.

With a new detachment commander (SI Dunn) and a new building on the way, there is only one way to look and that is forwards to a bright future for this phenomenal group of young people. - *Mr C Bailey*

COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY



As we settle into the middle of another academic year, our Year 7s start to get comfortable in their new surroundings and our Year 11s and 13s start to think about the future, including the small matter of examinations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Communications students, staff and parents for continuing to support myself and each other as we drive towards amazing futures for each and every student in the company. - Mr C Bailey

Achievements

Inderjeet (Year 9) and Pavitar Jhaj (Year 7)

The achievements of these two phenomenal students was initially brought to my attention by their tutor Mr Dawes, who is very proud of the remarkable achievements of his tutees.

Inderjeet and her younger brother, Pavitar, have spent years dedicating themselves to their practice and development in Kick Boxing. This work and dedication saw both of them recently receive their 2nd Dan black belt. To achieve this at their age is a great achievement, and surely an indication of even more to come. Watch this space!

Fireworks *by Mr C Bailey*

If you're lucky, you burn like a fire,
and the fuel that life adds takes you higher;
you shine and give warmth with your flames,
and can't even be ousted by rain.

If you're lucky, your heat will fade slow,
and you'll gently relinquish your glow.
Their eyes and the hands start to leave,
with time we get ready to grieve.

Some flames are not blessed to burn long,
but the light that they share is so strong,
while the exit is sharp and so stressful,
It's the fireworks that make bonfires special.

Sometimes tears rain like sparks from the sky,
And the bonfire can't keep our eyes dry.
When the show finally ends it is tragic,
But our hearts hold the fireworks magic!

*In memory of
Communications
Company student Zoe
Shapiro. Zoe made a huge
impression on everyone
who came into contact
with her and she will be
greatly missed.*



In the

SPOTLIGHT



Jack Reeves *Year 8*

Since he started at Q3 Academy, we have been aware of Jack's passion and prowess when it comes to playing hockey. Recently, Jack's ability and commitment have led to him being recognised at an even higher level, leading to Jack being selected to represent the Black Country.

At club level, Jack's team competed in and won the Under 12 Staffordshire Hockey Tournament. This is a clear indication that Jack plays for a team who have quality throughout their ranks, but this did not stop Jack winning a number of trophies for his individual contribution to the team.

One of the trophies that Jack came away with was for 'Coaches Player of the Future', and if Jack continues to develop as he has, I have no doubt that his future will be a very bright one.

Keep up the great work Jack; we are very proud of you!

Out and about

From Farm to Fork

On Monday 11th January, 7B had the opportunity to visit Tesco Walsall and have a look behind the scenes. They were able to learn where their food comes from by exploring the fruit and vegetable aisle, the bakery, counters and chillers, as well as tasting some exciting new food.

We were able to meet a baker who showed us how the bread is made and packaged. We were able to taste different types of cheeses which most students had never tried before,

Red Leicester was a clear favourite for the group!

We got up close and personal with fish from the fishmonger and we were shown the teeth and tongue of a Trout!

We were able to experience parts of a store people would not normally see, in particular, standing in a giant fridge!

The day was thoroughly enjoyed by both staff and students! - Miss L Chamberlain



Macbeth at The Birmingham Rep Theatre

On Thursday 28th January A-level Drama and Theatre Studies students travelled to the Birmingham Rep Theatre to see a contemporary visual interpretation of Shakespeare's Macbeth. It was a stunning production which formed a fitting tribute that marked 400 years since the bard's death. -

Mrs L Karim



A-Level French Student Conference

On Friday 5th February, the A-Level French students had an early start as we made our way to London to attend the annual Keynote Student Conference.

The day was led by three Senior Examiners for A-Level French, and delivered almost completely in target language. They shared

some really excellent ideas with our students on how to make best use of their knowledge to achieve the highest marks possible in the speaking assessment. They also divulged some top tips in structuring essays in French, which the students are already starting to show off in their writing.

Speaking to the students following the conference, it was clear that it had been a really useful experience, albeit exhausting! -
Mr L Price

Physical Environments Field Trip

On the first day back after half term the Geography department took the Year 12 Geography class to the FSC Church Stretton Centre for the day. The aim of the day was to learn about quantitative fieldwork techniques and gather primary data for the class to analyse once they were back in the Academy.

We spent an hour in the classroom focusing on the theory of their river study and then travelled to Carding Mill Valley to gather their data. A range of techniques were used including sketch maps, measuring width and depth of the river, categorising the bed load of the river and many more. There were certainly lots of wet wellies by the end of the day! - *Mrs S Carrick*



LIFESTYLE COMPANY



Having joined the Academy in January I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome I have received from staff and students alike. I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to all the students and staff in Lifestyle.

I am really excited about all the positive changes taking place in Lifestyle including the appointment of our new Company Administrator Mrs Priddey. I have had the pleasure of meeting all the students now and I continue to be amazed by their potential.

As we approach the exam season for Years 11, 12 and 13 I would like to wish you all the best of luck, remember to dig deep and keep giving it 100%. - *Miss S Walsh*

Achievements

James Read (Y7) & Nickkie Francis (Y7)

A massive well done to James Read and Nickkie Francis, both in Year 7 for achieving their Diamond Q-point award. Nickkie said she 'felt happy to achieve the highest Q point award'.

Both students have been exemplary members of their class groups, showing commitment and enthusiasm towards their studies.

Learning Consultants have said that the students are 'a pleasure to teach' adding that they are 'real role-models for their classmates.'

A fantastic achievement for two well deserving students!

In the

SPOTLIGHT



Ché Donaldson-Brook *Year 7*

Ché Donaldson-Brook is a talented Year 7 student who recently took part in the Sandwell indoor athletics league. This consisted of 6 rounds over several months. Ché took part in a variety of events including the 100m and triple jump. The competition included 3 age groups from Year 7, 8 and 9 and Ché was a winner for his year group.

This was a fantastic achievement that took months of hard work, preparation and commitment.

“I enjoy training and competing in events as I feel successful and motivated. I enjoy the feeling of pushing myself to run faster for each competition”

We would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Ché on a wonderful achievement and wish him every success in future events.

Charity Days

Communications Company by Mr C Bailey

Just before Christmas, the staff and students of the Communications Company took to the task of raising money for the John Taylor Hospice. With a Christmas themed Charity Day, which will be remembered for competitions, Christmas themed stalls, a photo booth, and the appearance of Santa Claus himself; we managed to raise just under £400 for a truly wonderful cause.

The John Taylor Hospice describes their role as being there "to ease the personal and financial cost of illness and death just a little every day. We're here for you and your family wherever you need us, for as long as you need us". For people who find themselves in the unfortunate position of struggling with terminal illness, the work of charities like this is valuable beyond measure, and I am so proud of the contribution of the Communications team and the whole Academy for supporting this.

On a recent visit to the hospice, residents and staff requested that I pass on to the whole Q3 Academy community how grateful and thankful they are for our contribution to the care and needs of others.

This is just another fantastic example of what it means to be part of Q3 Academy, and how,

when we work together we have the power to do wonderful things.



Arts Company by Ms J Lones-Greaves

Thursday 11th February was the Arts charity launch day, followed by the main event on the Friday 12th February.

I need to say a huge thank you to all the staff and students who made the event such a success .

In particular a special thank you needs to go to all of the Art tutors for their hard work in preparing each activity, the site team for getting everything in position, the two phantom flan flinger's and of course the staff who did the 'head to head' flan battles.

The total money raised was £821.89 and this is going to be divided between Cancer Research and Birmingham's Children Hospital.

“ Arts Charity day was fun and an incredible day for me as a student. There were delicious samosas and spring rolls as well as yummy cakes and fizzy pops and sweets, but also an amazing raffle and valentine's cards and roses. It was a good day but knowing all the money donated went to charity was an even better feeling. In my tutor we sold cakes and doughnuts and roses” -Rajak Ali Year 10

“ We sold a lot of things and everyone liked what we had in store. Arts Charity Day was a success as everyone was bursting with excitement to see *Flan the Teacher!*” -Ellie Davies Year 7



Social Design Company *by Miss S Leggett*

This term has been very exciting and another extremely busy one with Social Design holding their very own charity day and raising an impressive £577.72 for Acorns charity.

The day was a huge success and fun was had by all; Mr Slack took a pie to the face for losing his 'Maths off' challenge against Mr Machin, Mr Mills and Mr Kulyna arm wrestled students for chocolate eggs, while Mr Davies kept a strong position in goal for the penalty shoot-out, it really was a great day!

However none of this would have been possible without all the staff and students giving generously and helping to support such a wonderful cause. From baking cakes to knitting chicks; I certainly felt proud to be part of team Social Design.



Staff photo competition *by Mr S Arrandale*

Our first competition of this kind produced a variety of interesting perspectives on the theme "WINDOWS".

Mr A. Stabler's submission came first place followed by entries from Ms J. Lones-Greaves in second and Mrs L. Devane in third place.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the competition, we hope to make this a regular feature. The next theme is "REFLECTIONS".

We look forward to seeing the entries!



Sport Sideline

Boys Rugby *by Mr A Stabler*

The Rugby club is yet again providing a great avenue for the Q3 boys to get into a new sport. With the help of the staff in finance we have managed to secure a new modern and hard wearing playing kit.

The Year 9s went away to Skelmersdale in the first round of the Champion Schools National Rugby League Competition. The Q3 boys played against a very strong team; Saddleworth High School from Oldham.

With an amazing pedigree in the Rugby League world, one former Saddleworth student was Kevin Sinfield; second in BBC Sports Personality of the year. Former teachers include Phil Larder and the current Bath RFC coach Mike Ford. The match was always going to be tough. Additionally, there were a number of scouts from the Rugby League world in attendance including Widnes and Wigan.

The initial exchanges went well and after ten minutes the scores and the game was in the balance, a fantastic solo try from skipper Zhaki Abdul-Jamil levelled the score 4-4. By half time Saddleworth started to take a narrow lead by 12-4. The second half was a bit of a blow out with the opposition scrapping a 58-4 win.

no point did their heads go down. The opposition had a number of players being looked at by professional clubs and Saddleworth have beaten the Welsh RL champions to progress to the semi-finals since our game.

We are experiencing a much larger uptake in the after school Rugby and increased participation can only be a good thing. We are also having Handsworth Rugby Union Club doing some guest coaching and they are recruiting players for the junior set up.

We have had a number of friendly games so far this season, the improvement in the skills and tactics the Q3 team is showing is outstanding. A special thank you to Forest Oak School for coming over and playing us in some great games.

As ever the after school rugby club welcomes all standards and is always looking for new players.



Judo Success *by Mrs E Griffiths*

Q3 Academy is once again celebrating sporting success as two of their students gain Gold medal positions at the Midlands Area 2016 British Schools Qualifier held in Nottingham.

Holly Phillips and Zakhi Abdul-Jamil both represented Q3 Academy at the event. They performed really well and not only did they win gold medals in their categories but they also qualified for the British Schools Judo Championship to be held later on this year.

Holly has been attending Judo classes since she was 4 years old, she loves the sport and hopes to represent her country at the Olympics one day. Zakhi has only been practising the sport for 3 years now but enjoys the discipline the sport teaches him and hopes to progress to a high level in the coming years.

Judo Development Officer Wayne McDonald said: We at the University of Wolverhampton Judo Club are very proud of their achievements.



Girls Football *by Miss M Samuel*

The U13 girls travelled to West Bromwich Albion on Wednesday 2nd March, where they competed in a football tournament against other schools in the West Midlands. After playing numerous matches, they managed to come third overall in their league which is a fantastic achievement! Well done to the squad: Amelia Priddey, Holly Phillips, Isabel Clarke, Chloe Studley, Lucy Fallows, Gabby Porter, Sasha Logan and Eleanor Elwell.



Girls Football *by Miss L Ingall*

The new Year 7 netball team have made a fantastic start to the season, winning three out of four games so far. The girls have shown dedication and commitment, turning up to weekly training sessions, and have played enthusiastically in all of their matches. They have beaten Wood Green, ACE and Phoenix comfortably, with Jessica Moore and Amelia Leonard both receiving nominations for players' player. Well done to the Year 7 netballers, keep training hard and winning games!

DISCOVERY COMPANY



Achievements



Throughout this term, the Discovery students have been working hard to ensure that they are progressing in all aspects of Academy life.

Our students have had numerous successes and achievements.

Finally I'd like to congratulate our students who were nominated for the PLD Award for their hard work this term. Well done everyone. - *Miss M Samuel*

Madison Owen Matthews

After a hard winters training Madison Owen Matthews competed in the first BMX race of the national season in Manchester. She came 3rd during both days of racing which is an outstanding result considering there were 63 riders.

Madison is now in the third year of being an 'Olympic development apprentice' and travels to Manchester weekly to train. Madison has also signed a new contract with a huge sponsor and rides for Identity BMX factory UK. Madison will be competing in the next round of races in Birmingham and is eager to train hard and win. Well done Madison.

Olivia Prosser

Olivia Prosser, one of our hardest working Discovery students, has been awarded a Gold Medal for a performance with her Dance Academy, Star Makers. Olivia performed with a group of four in front of an external examiner and was awarded the Gold medal with highly commended. Well done Olivia.

In the

SPOTLIGHT



Ryan Morris *Year 12*

I have been a special makeup effects artist for 1 year now, and have created a lot of looks over that time. I aim to study makeup for film and TV at university, whilst working on local and national film sets all over the country and abroad. At the moment, I have worked on two films; last summer I worked on "The Girl with All the Gifts", a dystopian zombie apocalypse thriller. And in January, a noir crime thriller, "The Marker".

Recently I have been creating work for A level and GCSE makeup coursework, for different genres from horror to thriller to Victorian. Creating looks from bruising and cuts to a clown and ringmaster! Every look I create has to be sketched out before hand, so that once I have an idea I can easily transfer the idea from paper to the models face. By using materials like gelatine and Alcohol activate paints, I can create a realistic makeup that could be on film.

Eventually I want to create my own horror movies, using practical effects, and to win the BAFTA award for makeup design."

Science Department

Science Club *by Miss B Thomson*

Early each Thursday morning, our KS3 scientists gather in their lab coats and goggles ready to investigate a new and exciting phenomena. Our latest session was electrifying, as students used a Van der Graaf generator to investigate the effects of static electricity. Hair stood on end as students charged up and braced themselves for a shock! Science Club has been a huge success and members have enjoyed participating in a range of fun activities. With new members joining weekly, we are excited to see what the Summer Term has in store.

Zoolab *by Miss S. Featherstone*

On Thursday 17th March, the students of Year 8 had a visit from Charlotte, a Zoolab Ranger who gave an interactive

workshop on Animal Adaptations.

The visit, to celebrate science week, was a roaring success with all students getting stuck in and handling the fantastic creatures. We met the Giant African Land Snail, a millipede with 250 legs and a Giant Cockroach. Students also had the opportunity to meet Bella the Tarantula who stayed in her box because she had a tendency to bite! The main attraction was Sizzle the American Corn Snake. Nearly all students held the friendly Orange and White reptile who happily slithered over our Year 8s.

The final animals in the line-up were a beautiful bearded dragon who loves exploring and a South American Guinea Pig whose big brown eyes enchanted anyone who set eyes on her.

A special mention for our 8O3 and 8A2 classes; their behaviour and wide-ranging inquisitive questions about our special guests really impressed Q3 Academy staff and the Zoolab Ranger.



Rocket Science *by Miss S. Featherstone*

Students at Q3 Academy are preparing to become space biologists and embark on a voyage of discovery by growing seeds that have been into space.

In September, 2kg of rocket seeds were flown to the International Space Station (ISS) on Soyuz 44S where they spent several months in microgravity. The seeds have been sent as part of Rocket Science, an educational project launched by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and the UK Space Agency.

Q3 Academy will be one of up to 10,000 schools to receive a packet of 200 seeds from space, which they will grow alongside seeds that haven't been to space and measure the differences over seven weeks. The students won't know which seed packet contains which seeds until all results have been collected by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and analysed by professional biostatisticians.

At 4:26am on Tuesday 2nd March, Commander Scott Kelly of NASA and Russian cosmonauts Mikhail Kornienko and Sergey Volkov of Roscosmos landed safely back on Earth in Kazakhstan. The seeds then travelled with Scott Kelly to NASA in Houston on a charter flight from Moscow, Russia and returned to the UK on Thursday 17th March. The seeds are now getting packed up so they can be sent to Q3 Academy in April!

The out-of-this-world, nationwide science experiment will enable the students to think more about how we could preserve

human life on another planet in the future, what astronauts need to survive long-term missions in space and the difficulties surrounding growing fresh food in challenging climates.

Mrs Perry, said:

“We are very excited to be taking part in Rocket Science. This experiment is a fantastic way of teaching our students to think more scientifically and share their findings with the whole community. We are hoping to inspire the next generation of scientists from the Gardening Club in Year 7 to members of staff in our Academy. Everyone is so excited and we are lucky that all members of the community are looking to be involved and support in whatever way they can.”

Follow the project on Twitter:
[@Q3RocketScience](#)



SOCIAL DESIGN COMPANY



Another term has flown by and it's hard to believe it has nearly been a year since I started at Q3; and what a journey it has been. Social Design continues to impress me with their drive for excellence and consistently high standards in and around the Academy.

The Year 11 students have been attending many afterschool sessions with most extending their academic day until 5pm in preparation for their upcoming exams.

Additionally many will be in the Academy over the holidays, fine tuning their revision skills, while demonstrating that diligent work ethic I have come to associate with Q3 students. Good luck Year 11 there is light at the end of the tunnel yet. - Miss S. Leggett

Achievements

Tia McDonald and **Carys Lewis**, along with Svante Samuels (Arts company) (pictured) are 3 very talented girls who compete in street
27 dance competitions and are currently 2nd

in their division. Their quick moving feet and impressive flips will hopefully see them come first in their next competition.



Megann Ford

We are proud to announce that Megann Ford has been selected as one of the Academy JETs and will be in charge of charity events.

Megann has already demonstrated that she is a mature and organised young woman with her sterling efforts for the Social Design charity day and we are confident that she will go on to help raise a lot more money for many a worthy cause. Well done Megann!

In the SPOTLIGHT



Kiera Thaper *Year 7*

Kiera Thaper is one of our Year 7 students and is a talented Violinist with a bright future ahead of her. Keira has settled in to the Academy with much gusto and has shown a committed and mature work ethic for someone of her age. This topped with her musical abilities are sure to see her go far and we look forward to seeing what the future holds for her.

Sasha Bunn and **Hannah Ford**, along with Olivia Prosser (Discovery Company) (pictured) are another dance trio who were recently awarded a gold medal in freestyle dance. At the moment they are also practising for their annual dance show in late April which is set to include a challenging tap piece; we look forward to hearing how it goes.



A special mention goes out to the following students for winning this terms PLD awards;

Year 7 = Demi Mattu

Year 8 = Jamie Johnson

Year 9 = William Howl

Year 10 = James Hall

Year 11 = Bradley Foster

Sixth Form = Megann Ford

These students have shown the resilience and determination that is needed to pursue excellence in all walks of life; It makes me very proud to have them in our company.

Music Department

Instrumental Awards

Many students in the Academy have vocal tuition and two of our talented Year 10 students have been recognised for their achievements.

Congratulations Leah Reed and Mae-Lee Simon Horton. Leah has achieved, 'Sandwell Music and Arts Service' (SMAS) grade 5 and Mae has achieved SMAS grade 2. Well done both.

Rewards Assembly

During the Easter rewards assemblies we had a range of performers from our Year 9 GCSE Music class.

We had an upbeat full band performance of 'Chelsea Dagger' with Nick Room on bass and vocals, Alexander Nash on vocals, Ben Garry on piano, Ryan Humphreys on percussion and William Martin on guitar. This really got the crowd in the mood to celebrate their success.

We also had two solo performances from Ananya Painter and Ben Garry. Our fantastic Year 8 performers, Lucy Fallows, Triya Patel and Heather Clarke performed for Year 7 in their rewards assembly.

29 The rewards assemblies are a highlight of

the Academy term and these performances added to the ambience of the celebration assembly.

Visit to the Symphony Hall

On January 19th a group of students from choir and band attended a 'City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra' concert at Symphony hall.

The concert was devised specifically for secondary age students and included recognisable music such as 'Ride of the Valkyries' and music from 'West Side Story'. Specific elements and motifs within the pieces were demonstrated by sections of the orchestra, showing how the pieces were built. The students enjoyed the experience and were inspired by the powerful sound of the orchestra. Sasha Logan one of our Year 7 students wrote a poem about her experience, below is an extract.

"Pieces made by composers and musicians, pieces with lots of different missions. Pieces with heartbreak and tears, pieces with action and spears. All played at one building so tall, it is known as Symphony Hall."



Year 8 Performance

Year 8 students have been creating their own 'Pop Mash Ups' using a four chord progression. The students have developed their own cover versions using vocals and other instruments.

We had some amazing performances and two of the best groups, from Mr Bailey and Miss Baines' class, performed to the staff during their Friday morning briefing. The staff were very impressed with the students' creativity and confidence. The students were:

Demi-Leigh Scruton
Amy Bowler
Seana Irving
Carys Lewis
Lucy Fallows
Triya Patel
Heather Clarke



Sandwell Music Recitals

We have many students in the Academy who are learning to play orchestral instruments. The hardest working and most talented students are invited to perform in special recital performances at locations across the borough.

We are proud to say that David Cattell in Year 8 performed during a woodwind concert playing clarinet. Lucy Fallows, William Bartlett and Kiera Thaper also performed at a string recital.

All students worked extremely hard to prepare for these events and performed confidently representing Q3 with excellence. Well done all.





Lettings & Events

Q3 Academy can accommodate almost any event, including:

- Weddings
- Conferences
- Theatre Productions
- Sporting Events
- Teaching Workshops
- Art Exhibitions and many more

For more details contact:

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Gym membership is also available at a discounted rate.

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