



ACADEMIES
TRUST

FoQus

Spring 2017



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A Message from the Chief Executive



Almost a year has passed since I embarked on my journey as Chief Executive of the Q3

Academies Trust. I consider it a privilege to be part of a team who are committed to transforming lives and challenging young people to reach for the stars. The recent Ofsted Inspection (January 2017) highlighted the high aspirations we have for all students:

“Teachers have high expectations of pupils’ conduct and standard of work. This means that pupils’ behaviour in lessons is consistently positive and their books show that they take pride in their work. Underpinning these developments in teaching are high aspirations for pupils’ progress that are shared by all leaders and teachers. Teachers talk regularly with pupils about these aspirations, so pupils feel

able to tackle challenges and aspire to exceed their targets.”

This edition provides a heart-warming collection of success stories showcasing the fantastic achievements of our staff and students. As you will discover in the pages that lie ahead our young people can be commended on their talents and determination. None of this would be possible without our dedicated team of staff who give unstintingly of their time and expertise both in and outside of the classroom to provide the myriad of activities on offer.

Recently we held a Careers Networking event for Year 9 students and were delighted to welcome the Black Country Chamber team along with 50 local business representatives. During the event, it was tremendously humbling to hear two of our alumni students reflecting on the

well-rounded education they had received which had launched them into successful careers. As I spend time with students and staff at both of our Academies there is a strong ‘family bond’ firmly embedded. I have visited many schools and have yet to find one that can demonstrate, as we do, that the Q3 Academies Trust provides an education that is as individual as our students.

I am sure you will join me in wishing our Year 11 and Post 16 students every success as they embark on their external examinations next term. They have worked with determination and deserve the best outcomes.

My very best wishes for a relaxing Easter break.

Dr Caroline Badyal
Chief Executive

Head of School, Q3 Academy Great Barr



I am excited to be able to share with you news of the wide range of varied activities

over the last few months. The dedication of the students and staff and the whole Academy community shines through in the articles in the following pages.

Secondary education has got to be more than just learning to pass exams and I'm thrilled with the work of the students and staff to make Q3 Great Barr a place to celebrate educating the whole child.

There really is something for students if they make the effort to get involved and we are often launching new clubs and activities to suit the interests of staff and students. I know that joining new clubs and activities can seem daunting but students needn't be

shy, just have a go, get involved and learn some new skills and make new friends by throwing yourself further into Academy life.

The articles can only give a flavour of the life at Q3 Academy Great Barr and I'm sure parents and carers will quiz their children to find out more.

Mr Mark Arnall
Head of School
Q3 Academy Great Barr



Head of School, Q3 Academy Langley



We've had a fantastic time at Q3 Langley since we last were featured in an edition of FoQus!

We have really settled into our new surroundings and life in Year 7.

You will see from within the pages of this publication some of the events that we have experienced. Our first, truly unique, Ethos Week or eWeek as we termed it, was an undoubted success in which staff and students alike were thrilled to take part in! The personal highlight for me was eating our lunch on the stage at The Birmingham Repertory Theatre on the Friday.

Mr Anderson our Learning Consultant of Science organised a range of activities for Science Week – in particular we discussed the need for more of a push for women to move into the field of Science.

Red Nose Day was an enjoyable experience – although I cannot believe how many students voted for Ed Sheeran to be played during our Family Lunch that day!

We were very proud to see the election process for our Head Boy and Girl take place under the guidance of Ms Smith and also friend of both Academies Surinder Singh. We had a 100% turnout in the polling station and were delighted to see the response to Ben and Nathania's election.

Our new Excellence Leaders have been appointed and our very first Student Council set up this term too. Finally, it was wonderful to see students from both Academies come together to visit the University of Wolverhampton and meet the newly appointed England cricket captain Joe Root. His signed bat has pride of place in our board room!

Finally I would just like to pass on our best wishes to former colleagues at Great Barr for the wonderful Ofsted result secured in late January.

Mr Peter Lee
Head of School
Q3 Academy Langley



As many of you may already know Q3 Academy Great Barr was inspected by Ofsted on Tuesday 31st January and the team confirmed that we remain a 'Good' school. Governors and staff wish to thank parents and carers for their kind words of support and their contributions to Parent View. Most importantly we would like to thank the students who spoke so enthusiastically about their work and life at the Academy.

Q3 Academy Langley Celebrate Ethos Week

In the last week of February Q3 Academy Langley introduced Ethos Week (eWeek) and it was a truly special week!

Monday saw the Wellbeing Crew deliver a range of sessions - from Tai Chi to Aromatherapy; Tuesday our P.S.H.E focus; Wednesday RISE (and P.E/Enrichment); Thursday our wonderful P.L.T.S day, and Friday our trip to Birmingham.

In addition, all week, we hosted Made in Oldbury, with local artists Brendan and Kate who helped our students create some delightful artwork!



Duke of Edinburgh

Twelve students in Year 12 are currently undertaking their Silver Award, with twenty eight students in Year 9 beginning their Bronze Award. The students are independently completing their skills, volunteering and physical units. The groups will then undertake their expeditions in the summer, where they will plan routes, navigate and walk in the countryside to complete the final element of their qualification.

The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a really exciting opportunity for our students to put some of the skills that they already have into practice, but also to develop some new skills. Our current cohort of Bronze Award students got to do exactly that when working their way through a certificate in First Aid that is especially tailored to equip students with practical, and potentially life-saving First Aid knowledge. Mr Price's voluntary work for St John Ambulance allows him to deliver and accredit students in a First Aid for Duke of Edinburgh qualification that is designed to teach the most relevant areas of First Aid with the expedition element of the Award in mind, but also enforcing the importance of knowing basic First Aid skills in order to stay healthy, safe, and happy!



Hairdressing City and Guilds

Students undertaking their City and Guilds qualifications in Hairdressing were showing off their talents in a photo-shoot designed to highlight the hard work they had put into their latest assessment.

As part of the assessment criteria the class were asked to create hair and beauty images that were from three main themes; historical, bridal or fantasy.

Megan (S9) and Mia (C1) decided to create a vision of fantasy with a well thought out fairy motif. Megan was pictured in the grounds of the Academy amongst the blossoming daffodils.



The Q3 Family Celebrate British Science Week

British Science Week is celebrated nationwide with many schools offering a range of activities for students to develop their passion and interest in Science with the Q3 Academies Trust being no exception!

The theme of Science ran like a vein through all aspects of Academy life during the week, carrying with it a buzz of enthusiasm from our eager students.

At Q3 Academy Langley, during Tutor Time, the students explored their favourite aspects of Science; looked at various career paths in STEM, and analysed the contributions of a diverse range of scientists from history.

This high level of scientific discussion was echoed during Family Lunch where the topics have reinforced the idea that Science is everywhere.

During Science lessons, the students were exposed to their usual diet of investigations and experiments, but with an extra focus on looking at real-world applications of the topics they are studying.

The highlight of the week arrived on Wednesday, when several professionals from the world of Science visited the Academy to talk about their experiences and inspire the next generation of scientists to pursue their dreams.



Each Company was allocated a leading professional for a short presentation and an in-depth question-and-answer session; the quality of the questioning from the students was outstanding and many continued their discussions over Family Lunch about the scientific career in which they are most interested.

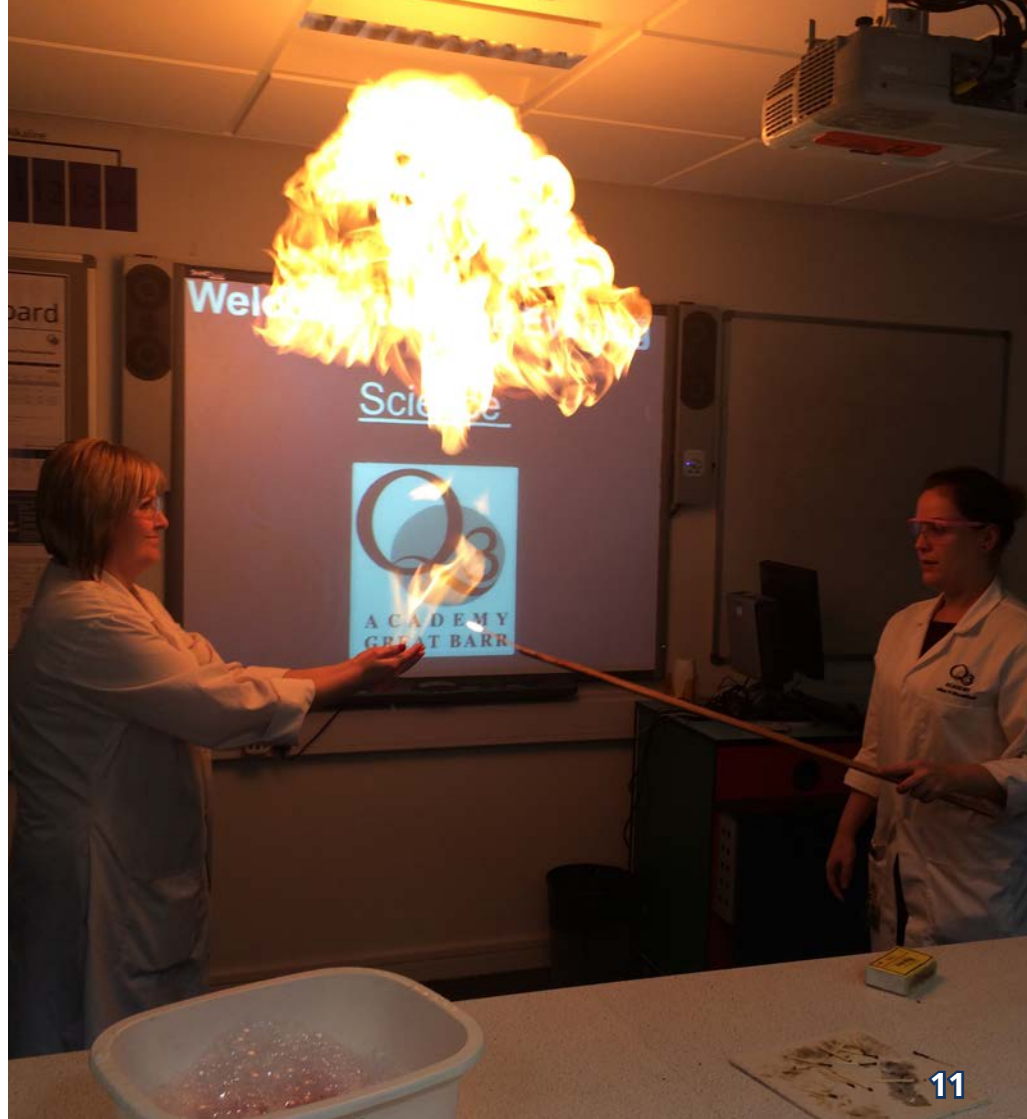
There was also an inspiring assembly delivered by the guests that encouraged all of the students to “be the change that they want to see” in Science, in order to break down the gender gap that is present in so many scientific careers.

British Science Week was celebrated in style at Q3 Academy Great Barr with interesting displays on career paths within the Science field, interactive skeletons and themes around change. This will link in with curriculum going

forward in Science where students will have the opportunity to study the changing phases of butterflies.

Brainteasers on Science themes were used as starters in the lessons and A-Level students were given advice and guidance on the areas of Science they can study at University. Unique resources were used to identify key roles within Science fields through cartoons and fun photographs.

It was an inspiring week for the students that has generated a real buzz in conversations around the Academy, and whilst they are still early in their educational careers, it is wonderful to see and hear so many young males and females considering careers in Science, and identifying the first steps that they need to take in order to achieve that success.



Music Department

Q3 Rocks!

Our talented Year 10 band were invited to perform at a 'Rock and Pop Night' at Shireland Collegiate Academy on Tuesday 4th April. The group which is made up of Q3 Academy Great Barr students Nick (A10), Ryan (L4), William (S4) and Ben (L3) absolutely rocked!

They performed two songs, the first 'Wake me up When September Ends' by Green Day. This song is quite an emotional piece at the start, with just piano and vocals, and then builds up to an epic rock ending. The band then performed 'Can't Stop' by the Red Hot Chilli Peppers. This song is by no means an easy piece and the band smashed it!

There were performers from five other schools and the boys were cheered on by an impressive Q3 Academy entourage of guests, who came to support. The night was absolutely brilliant and the Year 10 band were a credit to the Academy.

Clarinet Ensemble

This previous half term, three of our very talented Clarinet players have been working together during Tutor Time and break time to create a Clarinet quartet. The students are: David (C3), Caitlin (S9) and Joseph (S10) and have been led by Mr Smith. The students have been working on a piece called 'Tequila' and have performed it at the Sandwell Music Service 'Bright Stars Evening' and in the Q3 Sixth Form rewards assembly.

As part of the Year 7 Music Hori7on lessons, we have been working on whole class Clarinet performances. The quartet performed their piece 'Tequila' for our current Clarinet class. It really inspired the group and showed them what they could achieve in the future.



Music Awards & Certificates

All of our music students have been working hard during their instrumental lessons.

The following students have been awarded grade certificates this term. Congratulations to all of our musical students!

Charlotte (D6) – Grade 5 Clarinet
David (C3) – Grade 4 Clarinet
Caitlin (S9) – Grade 4 Clarinet
Liam (D6) – Grade 3 Trumpet
Oliver (D3) – Grade 3 Trombone
Kashjelle (L2) - Level One Certificate
Rochelle (L2) - Level One Certificate
Alexander (S1) - Level One Certificate
Taaliyah (A9)- Level One Certificate
Holly (L2) - Level One Certificate



Quavers Choir

Quavers choir have been working really hard this half term, focusing on two pieces: 'Don't Stop Believing' and 'You Raise Me Up'. With now over twenty members of the choir, we are able to add more difficult parts using harmonies, which are sounding fantastic. The choir performed in the Year 7 Rewards Assembly, and are looking forward to performance opportunities in the summer term.



The Q3 Family raise money for Comic Relief

Red Nose Day for Comic Relief on 24th March 2017 was filled with fun and games. Both Academies adopted the #WearItRed approach where staff and students had the opportunity to wear something red for the day for a £1 donation to the Charity.

Cakes and samosas were sold throughout the day. Q3 Academy Great Barr joined in with the national theme, and asked staff and students to submit their best joke. The winning jokes were from William (S7) and Miss Jeanneret. Additionally, Lucy (D1) and Amelia-May (C1) from Q3 Academy Langley organised various fund-raising activities during the day. In total, the Q3 family raised a fantastic £475 for Comic Relief.

Here are some of our favourite entries for the joke competition:

"Why did the prawn leave the bar?
Because he pulled a mussel!"

Miss Jeanneret

"Why did the student throw his
watch out of the window?

Because he wanted to see time
fly!" **Grace (A8)**

"Two fish in a tank were talking,
one says to the other "Do you
know how to drive this thing
mate?" **Miss Allway**

"My wife asked me to take the
spider out instead of killing it...
We had a couple of drinks and
it turns out he's a pretty cool
guy. He wants to get into Web
Development." **Hannah (L5)**

"I know a girl at British Gas, do
you want a meter?" **Mr Stabler**

"What do you call bears with no
ears?
'b'." **Kayla (S3)**

"What did the grape say when the
elephant stepped on it?
Nothing, it just gave out a little
wine!" **Mr Garfield**

"How does NASA organise a
party?
They planet!" **Priya (A4)**

"Did you hear about the guy who
left school to become a baker?
He kneaded the dough!"
Miss Featherstone



Year 7 Busy!

At Q3 Academy Great Barr, 7B put their creative hats on to raise some much needed funds for their residential trip planned for July. They were given a target and went through a detailed plan of what they wanted to do and how they wanted to achieve it. Students worked hard baking tasty treats to sell during the Academy day. They smashed their target by £50 which everyone was delighted about.

The students also had a unique opportunity to work with a local artist and a former Dartmouth High School student Darrell Wakelam. 7B explored creativity using different resources to make Jekyll and Hyde come to life. They used character descriptions and their imaginations to create their own version of the famous story but show it in an artistic way.

Students were able to see the journey from a pile of scrap card and tissue to a life-size 3D model that they designed. Students developed team work skills as well as their understanding of art and the perception of characters within Jekyll and Hyde.

Hori7on Mr Fox Menu Competition

Hori7on Year 7 Drama and Music have just completed a very successful and Egg-citing Easter competition with our catering providers Sodexo at Q3 Academy Great Barr.

Students were asked to use 'Mr Fox' as the theme for the competition (which the students have all been rehearsing). The judges were Miss Jeanneret (Lead Professional for Art and Design), Miss Allway and Miss Smith (Learning Consultants for Art), Mr Parker (Catering Manager for Sodexo) and Mr Aldo (Academy Chef).

The entries were of a very high standard and could have been used in any restaurant as a menu. The overall winner was Zakariya (D6). Everyone agreed that the competition was a really Egg-citing idea.



Q3 Student Elections

On Friday 10th February, Q3 Academy Langley proudly announced the ten candidates (five boys, five girls, two students from each Company) for their Head Boy and Head Girl positions. The winning students will become important ambassadors for our Academy, with the unsuccessful candidates, and other applicants, becoming inaugural Excellence Leaders, helping set up the Academy Council.

After intense first election in the Academy (which included a day of hustings) Head Girl and Head Boy were announced – congratulations to Head Girl, Nathania (D1), and Head Boy, Benjamin (L1). The overall standard exhibited during their speeches was exceptional; both Dr Badyal, and Sandy Singh, Sandwell's Election Participation Officer, commented that the standard was the highest they had ever seen from Year 7 students.

A massive thank you to Ms Smith, who organised and fronted the entire process – it was a triumph to behold.

Some of Ben and Nathania's duties will be to represent the Academy at key events for the Q3 Academies Trust throughout the academic calendar.

On Friday 17th March, Q3 Academy Great Barr began the process of appointing two Year 7 students to represent the Academy for the role of Head Boy and Head Girl. All students were invited to apply for the roles with a statement no more than 100 words long, explaining why they thought they would be suitable for the role.

Fifteen students were selected from all of the nominations that had been gathered. These fifteen students were then required to present their reasons as to why

they should be selected for the role in front of a panel of judges as well as all of the Year 7 students.

The judges included Dr Badyal, Mrs Blake, Miss Witton and Miss Chamberlain, as well as six other members of staff. All students were also asked two questions relating to the role.

The Head Boy and Head Girl were selected on the following criteria:

- Content of presentation;
- Delivery of presentation;
- Quality of responses.

The standard was very high and every student did a fantastic job. Congratulations to Head Girl, Zara (L9) and Head Boy, Callum (L7) who exhibited excellence in all three areas.

"My name is Benjamin, I am 11 years old and I am Head Boy at Q3 Academy Langley. My favourite hobby is horse riding and my other interests include football, reading and visiting zoos and nature reserves. My ambition for the future is to become a zoo-keeper or a vet."

"Hi I'm Nathania, I am the Head Girl at Q3 Academy Langley. I'm only 12, but my age doesn't reflect on my responsible personality! I love music, it is, in my opinion, a story that paints a picture. I enjoy all of my lessons at the Academy, especially Maths and Science"

"My name is Zara, I'm in Year 7 and I've been appointed as Head Girl at Q3 Academy Great Barr. I believe I am hard working and I like challenges. I appreciate the Academy's hard working staff, fantastic facilities and all of the guidance I've been given since I started here."

"I'm Callum and I am the Head Boy at Q3 Academy Great Barr. I will make a good Head Boy because I am confident, I can deliver a speech, and I acknowledge and speak out about problems."



National Storytelling Week



Q3 Family get Creative with Literacy

Short Story Competition Winner

During National Story Telling week Q3 Academy Langley students were given the opportunity to submit a short story for the Storytelling Competition. Staff within the Academy were impressed with the fabulously creative ideas submitted. It is so heartening to see Literacy at the heart of all that we do in the Academy. The winning entry was chosen for two key reasons. Firstly, it was a well-structured, well-written story with a great deal of effective language. Secondly, as the winning student is a member of the A.C.E group, it filled Mr Dawes (the judge) with pride to see such an accomplished piece of writing, reflecting his hard work, dedication and creativity. Congratulations!

Fabien (C1)

"Midnight. Dan and I were walking briskly through Warley Woods. The dark blue sky was full of little white stars, which looked like

white crystals. I was wrapped up in a thick, velvety coat, with a scarf around my neck like a snake. Cautiously, we walked down the long, rough pavement, surrounded by tall brown trees.

Scratch! Scratch! Scratch!

There was a sound coming from the bushes in the deep forest.

"What was that?" said Daniel. The sound kept happening, so I went to investigate.

My heart was racing; I slowly faced the bush, only to find a squirrel! But, a shadow grew over me. As I turned around, there stood a big, green monster!

Quickly, Dan and I ran frantically, without turning back, quicker than my legs could carry me."

World Book Day - "Do something Booky"

World Book Day 2017 saw students from Q3 Academy Great Barr enter a creative short story competition. Their task was to write a creative short story in 100 words

This was done over the week with hundreds of entries being submitted.

Four winners were chosen who each receive a small prize for their stories; Steven (S4), Emily (S8), Mia (C1) and Ellie (C1).

Steven was chosen for his descriptive story entitled '**Library of Love**'.

Library of Love by Steven (S4)

The Library is warm this afternoon, the sun bleeds through the windows on this lovely summer's day. I stand up and turn, only to knock the books out of someone's hand. "Sorry" I institutionally say trying to remember common courtesy, place my books on the side and try to help this person. As we stand I see a sight written only in fairy tales. Their hair strands of silk, their eyes perfect sapphires, and a smile that plucks at the strings of the heart. I stand there, staring a moment, encapsulated, stunned, enchanted, the only word I could muster was "hi."





Out and About

MFL in Action!

It's been another stimulating term in Modern Foreign Languages with our Linguists getting involved in a number of activities both inside and outside of the Academy!

Our overseas trips to francophone and hispanophone countries continue to be a huge success, and plans are already underway for next year's trips. These provide our students with an exceptional, exciting opportunity to develop their cultural appreciation, build their confidence in speaking another language, and to have a lot of fun.

Last term we were very privileged to be the first UK educational establishment to host Pickles, a French-speaking theatre company who not only entertained our Year 8 students with a gripping 'whodunnit?' performance but also worked alongside a selection

of our Linguists in a workshop delivered entirely in French. Students commented on how this was so much more accessible than they anticipated; it really helped prove to our students that they are much better at MFL than they give themselves credit for (a common misconception).

Lots of other work 'behind the scenes' is continuing to improve our curriculum offerings. Links established with more local primary schools, DuoLingo competitions well underway, and the introduction of German as a GCSE Pathway are all exciting announcements.

Bonne chance !
¡Buena suerte!
Viel Erfolg!

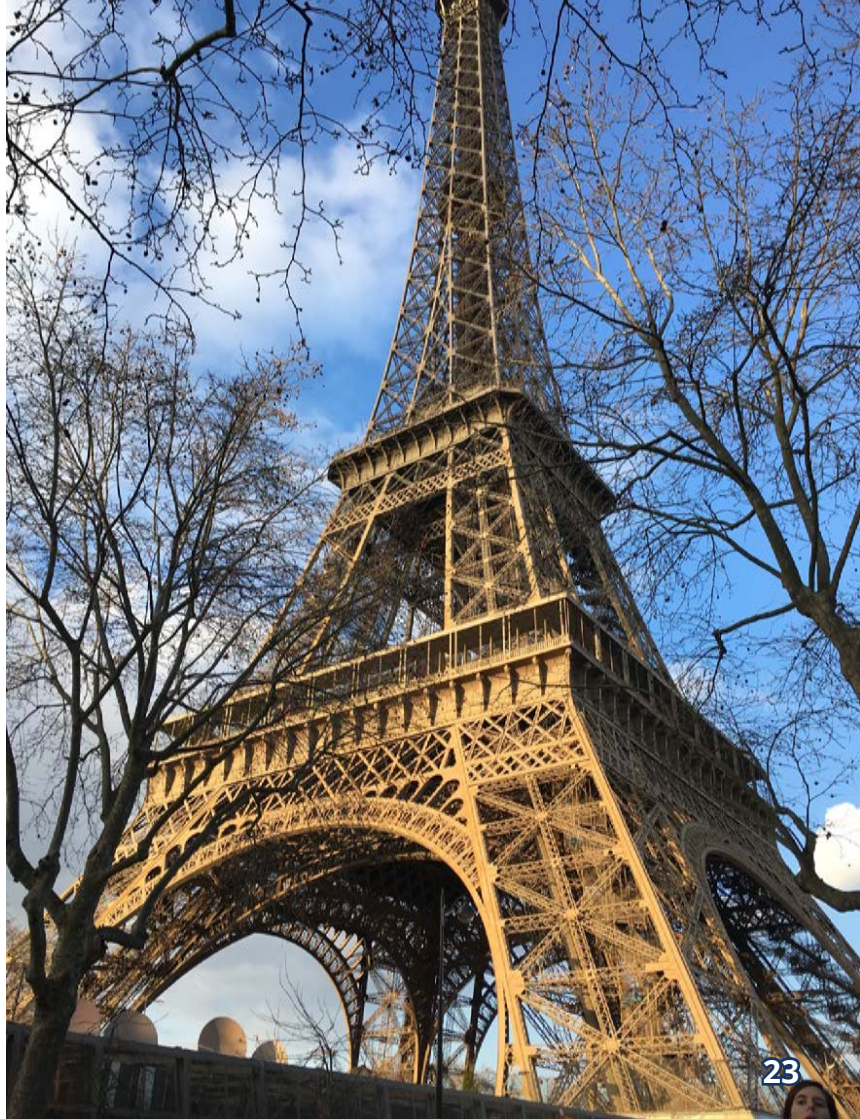
KS3 Paris Trip

During the winter term, 71 of our enthusiastic Year 8 students made the voyage to Paris for a four day adventure in the big city. Firstly, our students eagerly got straight to work in tasting the finest French chocolate and learning about how it is made to perfection.

We needed all the energy from the chocolaty goodness as we prepared for a fun-packed day in Paris. But first, lunch! Our students all set off in the French markets to buy their lunch – in French – and returned with a feast!

Then off to Paris, the Eiffel Tower! Our students mentally and physically prepared themselves for the hike that was ahead of them – 741 steps in total, and what a view! We saw all the sights of Paris from 337 feet – quelle belle ville !

For our final day, we headed to Disneyland for the rides and lots of Disney fun with Mickey and the gang! Fun was had by all and we were sad to leave after a great trip, à la prochaine, Paris !



Sport Sideline

Students meet England Cricket captain Joe Root!

In February, Q3 Academy Great Barr and Q3 Academy Langley students were fortunate enough to attend an exciting afternoon of cricket at the University of Wolverhampton.

Students ranging from Year 7 to Year 11 took part in coaching sessions and then got to meet new England Test Cricket Captain, Joe Root. After finding out about his career, Joe answered questions from the students, including one from James (S5), and then got to pose for photographs.

Students were left inspired by the session with Greta (S1) saying "it was an amazing experience". They didn't come away empty-handed either, Joe kindly signed a number of Cricket bats which will be exhibited in both Academies



Year 8 Football success

The Year 8 footballers have had a great run in the West Midlands Cup this year, culminating in an away trip to Hereford.

After beating Blue Coat School, Q3 Academy Great Barr students had their best performance to date, beating an exceptionally strong Thomas Telford School 4 - 3, despite playing with 10 players for the entire game, including two great goals from Ben (S7). Whitecross School were eventually too hard an opposition, but an impeccable attitude and effort was shown throughout.

Well done!



GCSE Sports Club

In October we started a GCSE PE club to increase opportunity, deepen knowledge and understanding, to get all of our examination groups better grades in their practical assessment. The club is open to Years 9, 10 and 11 GCSE PE students, and we currently have 50 students attending on a Thursday 3.15-4.15pm.

Due to the clubs success we have arranged fixtures against other schools GCSE PE teams, and the U15 boy handball team made up of Year 10 and 9 GCSE PE boys are through to the Black Country Games. We have also seen a rise in practical grades which is boosting confidence and grades.

As we move into the summer term we hope to have an increase in numbers to work on Athletics, Netball and summer activities.

Q3 in the Community

Four Q3 Academy Great Barr students came to the aid of an elderly gentleman when he tripped and fell outside a local supermarket.

The gentleman in his 60s contacted Q3 Academy Great Barr to let us know how our students came to his rescue, moved him from a potentially dangerous situation when he fainted, and then called an ambulance.

He wrote: "We read sometimes about 'yoof' but none of those things applied, polite, attentive and respectful, I could go on. These young men were all from your Academy, and you should be so proud."

When asked why they had helped, their response was simply that

instinct took over to do what was right. Showing that the values of Q3 Academy Great Barr 'to seek for that which is good, right and

true' are at the forefront of all that they do. We are very proud of their heroic actions.



Careers Speed Networking

On Monday 27th March 2017, Q3 Academies Trust in partnership with Black Country Chamber of Commerce organised an outstanding careers speed networking event to raise aspirations and employability skills by showcasing as many occupations as possible to students.

Based on a “Speed Networking” concept, employers from a wide range of occupations, passionate about their business donated half a day of their time to talk to young people about working in their industry. Students took it in turns to carousel around in small groups to find out more about different career paths and ask questions to gain an insight into the world of work.

Dr Badyal commented: “It was a fantastic event, allowing young people to have a real insight into possible career paths. We look

forward to working with the BCCC very soon on other events and raising students’ aspirations.”

BCCC encourages local employers to get involved in this vital work and support raising the awareness of the skills, qualifications and potential routes into different careers.

Corin Crane, Chief Executive of the BCCC, added: “Black Country businesses are always letting me know about the shortage of skilled workers and lack of transferable skills from young people. It is now time for businesses to support young people and inspire them to work in their particular industry. The Careers Speed Networking is a really interesting way for businesses to engage with young people, and provides a fun and informative way of finding out potential career options for the students.”





Student Rewards

Every term Q3 Academy Great Barr honours one student from each year group within each company who have shown dedication and determination for their studies, and who uphold the ethos and vision 'to seek for that which is good, right, and true'.

They are rewarded in assemblies and presented with certificates for their outstanding achievements.





Arts

Arts students have achieved a great deal this term. They have been commended on fantastic attendance results, strong determination to achieve their goals and never settling for second best. They work with great enthusiasm and pride in everything they do.



Communications

Students within this Company have been commended for their hard work, exemplary behaviour, manners and respect for others. They are always striving to achieve excellence in everything they do.



Discovery

Students within Discovery have been commended for demonstrating a positive attitude and being role models around the Academy. They have strived to raise their grades and achievements in everything they have done and be the best versions of themselves in everything they do. They have exceptional manners and are conscientious about their work.



Lifestyle

There has been an overwhelming feeling of pride for the Lifestyle students during these awards. They have shown themselves to be well mannered, polite and hardworking students within the Academy. Not only that, they have managed to turn their situations around after difficult beginnings to become exceptional at all that they do.



Social Design

Some real superheroes in the Social Design Company with students being commended for their self-less attitude and willingness to support their peers in lessons and around the Academy. Resilience and determination has been displayed by Social Design students with a strong work ethic, being the best they can be at all times, and helping younger students to strive for excellence.

Student Achievements

Congratulations to Amelia (A5) for completing her grade 4 tap exam with a merit. Amelia has been doing Tap for over five years which represents a huge commitment on her part.



We would like to congratulate Farbod (A8) for winning a gold medal in a recent Kick Boxing competition. "I had been training really hard for this, as I was up against a much bigger opponent, I was so happy when I won."



Holly (D4) has been doing Judo since the age of four and trains at the Wolverhampton Judo Club. On the 26th of March, she competed at the Samurai Judo Championships in Kidderminster in which she competed in the "Green Belt and Under" category. She had five rounds and won all of them. Well done Holly.



Q3 Academy students completed a Chase Walk organised by the Scout Association. The students had to walk forty miles around Cannock Chase, which took them eighteen hours and fourteen minutes to complete. Some of the students didn't make the whole forty miles but Jack, Charlotte, Pardip, Ben and Oliver completed the walk. Well done all.



Arts Company Charity Day

On the 13th and 14th February the Arts Company held a range of events to raise money for Birmingham Children's Hospital and Cancer Research. In total Q3 staff and students raised over £650 which we hope both Charities will be delighted to receive.

A huge thank you must go to everyone who helped to make the events such a success including the staff who put themselves forward to be flanned! The staff were: Mr Hind; Mrs Wilde; Mr Price; Ms Lones-Greaves; Mrs Noakes; Mr Cresswell; Mr Stabler, and Mrs Busby. Our two phantom flan flingers also need a special mention as they did a great job.

"Arts Company Charity Day went well; we raised a lot of money for our chosen Charities. It was an enjoyable time because of the friendly and fun atmosphere." - Michael, (A9)

"We baked Valentine's day cookies for Arts Charity Day as we thought that this would promote Valentine's day. We both enjoyed baking and selling the cookies for Charity as this is important because it helps less fortunate people around the world" - Caitlin & Emmy, (A2)

"Our Tutor Group for the Arts Charity Day participated in running two events: a hot chocolate stall, and a penalty shoot-out. The hot chocolate was a great success, We sold lots of chocolate with cream and marshmallows. People really enjoyed our product. Our other stall, the penalty shootout was fun to organise." - Thomas, (A1)

"On Arts Charity Day we sold drinks and sold out very quickly, it only took about 3-4 minutes. So this shows that people were happy to support our Charity and buy our products. I had so much fun helping out at Arts Charity Day" - Alex, (A3)

Aspirational visit to Q3 Academy Langley by Great Britain boxing prodigy Niall Farrell

Students at Q3 Academy Langley were given a unique opportunity to meet and question an aspirational young Great Britain boxing prodigy on Thursday 23rd March.

Niall Farrell has been tipped by former Commonwealth Games Gold medallist Don Broadhurst to be a future Olympic or Commonwealth games boxer.

Niall was at Q3 Academy Langley as part of an aspirational assembly delivered by Student Support Champion, Mr Karim. Students were able to ask questions about how he got into the sport and what makes him so determined to be a champion boxer.

Mr Karim said: "Niall is one of the most inspirational people I have ever met. Watching Niall on his journey to greatness has been a privilege and inspiration to witness. His hard work and dedication to his sport shows that with hard work and dedication anything is possible. On a personal note, Niall is one of the nicest and most genuine people you could ever meet, you can support and follow Niall's journey on Instagram and Twitter."



Q3 Students 'Busta Rhyme'

Just before the Academy finished for the Christmas Holidays 33 Q3 Academy Great Barr students entered a national poetry competition to be in with a chance of being featured in an anthology and to scoop a £1,000 prize.

The competition, run by Young Writers, was aptly named 'Busta Rhyme' and 23 of our 33 students who entered were selected to have their poems published in the Birmingham edition of the anthology.

Miss Bull who supported the students throughout the competition said: "I am really impressed with the quality of poetry that the students produced for the Busta Rhyme Poetry Competition. The work of a huge number of our students has been selected to be

published in a poetry anthology put together by 'Young Writers', a group who aim to promote poetry and creative writing across all ages.

It was inspiring to see the number of budding poets at Q3 Academy Great Barr, and it is clear that we have some truly talented students."





Q3 Students are a Cut Above the Rest!

Year 7 student Sinead (C4) decided to carry out a selfless task by having her long locks cut for Charity.

When asked why she decided to do something so drastic she replied “I have had family suffer with cancer and wanted to give something back”.

She has raised over £1,000 for MacMillan, but was shocked when she saw her reflection in the mirror.

She has decided to donate the hair to the Little Princess Trust who make wigs for young cancer sufferers across the UK. They have recently changed their criteria for accepting hair donations to include naturally highlighted hair.

Kind-hearted Q3 Academy Great Barr student Varisha (S5) had been growing her hair for six years to give to the Little Princess Trust so they can make it into a wig for those less fortunate.

By the time she had her hair cut on Saturday 18th March her hair went down as far as her waist, but now only goes up to her shoulders.

Varisha explained: "I wanted to do something to help because my hair is going to grow back anyway. I've been growing my hair for the past six years with the intent of donating it after I turned 16. The money raised will be donated straight to the Little Princess Trust and will hopefully support them with all the great things they are doing. I have had a lot of support, my friends came along with me to watch. It went great, my new hair will take some time to get used to though!"



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:

Mrs Heather May

Events Coordinator & Lettings Officer

Tel: 0121 358 6186 ext 1469

Email: heather.may@q3academy.org.uk

Gym membership is also available at a discounted rate.

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