

FoQus

Summer 2015



ACADEMY



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A Message from the Principal

As we end another academic year I reflect on our collective efforts to create the conditions for every child to excel. No matter what their circumstances we always strive to give our young people the tools that allow them to achieve their best. Academic attainment and exam success are just part of the story. Building a strong character and a sense of moral purpose is part of the responsibility we have towards our students. I am fortunate to be working with a team of staff who share this vision.

This edition of FoQus is brimming with good new stories reflecting fantastic teamwork and an absolute commitment to excellence. It is a privilege to share the work of our staff and students - I am so proud of all they have achieved.

At the end of term we will be saying goodbye to a member of the Executive team who has been integral to our vision and success both at



the predecessor Dartmouth High School and Q3 Academy. Mr Choudhury (Vice Principal) leaves us to take up a Headship in Birmingham. During his 12 years on the Great Barr site he has inspired students to achieve at all levels and his devotion to high

standards has made a difference to the life chances of so many young people. His ability to recognise the potential for growth in every child has been evident throughout his time with us and I am sure you will join me in wishing him every success in his new role.

One of our longest serving teachers retires at the end of term. Mr Perrins has taught PE on the Great Barr site for 37 years and recently changed



his direction to focus on Careers and Work Experience. He has encouraged and inspired students to participate in and enjoy sport, and I am sure a number of parents remember their PE lessons with Mr Perrins! We wish him a long and happy retirement.

Finally, my thanks to all our staff for their fantastic contribution in supporting our students to be the best they can be. Enjoy the summer break.

Dr Caroline Badyal
Principal/Chief Executive



Duke of Edinburgh Award *by Mr D. Snell*

This year there are 32 students in total, 22 on the Bronze Award and 10 on the Silver Award. As usual, they have had to complete four different types of activity at Bronze and Silver level. These are the Volunteering, Physical, Skills and Expedition activities. Students have taken part in a wide range of activities, including volunteering in the local community; sports leader qualifications; and a variety of physical challenges such as snorkelling, gymnastics, football, dance and swimming.

Our students have gained much from these activities, developing compassion, commitment and confidence. Through the Physical section in particular they developed their fitness and teamwork. The Expedition

activity is the final challenge... a chance to test their skills and level of determination in and against the natural elements.

This year our students have planned and trained for an adventurous journey in the Peak District at the end of July. In preparation for this they have attended Monday morning training sessions throughout the year, developing skills in map reading, navigation and first aid to name a few. These sessions concluded with a practice expedition in Shropshire. Students successfully navigated through the countryside over three days. They also had to pitch tents and cook food - developing their teamwork and pushing themselves beyond their expectations.



It was a pleasure to observe their behaviour in and around the campsite each evening. I witnessed many students leading their own activities independent from staff, such as playing Frisbee, body weight training exercises, sprint training and football juggling! I'm not sure how they had the energy to do these activities after some of the longest walks completed in the Award over recent years, but they were an absolute delight and a real credit to Q3 Academy.

I wish the students the very best of luck for their final expedition, they are well prepared and excited for the challenge and I'm sure they will complete it successfully.



Parabongo School Challenge *by Mr J. Webster*



Students in years 9 and 10 have signed up to take part in a competition to design a new school for children in Parabongo, Northern Uganda. The school will be used by up to 1000 children and adults from the surrounding villages and communities. It is proving to be a fantastic opportunity to develop the skills they have learnt during their BTEC construction course so far and feedback from the organisations involved has been very positive. Pupils will make their final idea submissions in September with the potential prize being an all-expenses paid trip to London to present their proposal at the Digital Construction Show to industry experts. Keep up the good work!

Arts COMPANY



I cannot believe another year has nearly come to an end. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the parents and carers of the students in Arts for your continued support. I would also like to wish all of our year 11, 12 and 13 students all the very best

for the future. I can truly say you have been a delightful group of individuals to have known. To the year 11s I hope to see you back in our Sixth Form in September and to the year 13s who are embarking on the next part of their journey, I hope you take every opportunity that comes your way. - *Miss J. Lones-Greaves*

Achievements

Simran Guru Year 11

We would like to congratulate Simran on passing her level 2 British Sign Language exam. She has not only passed but gained full marks. Simran has been attending the Sandwell Deaf Association in West Bromwich for the last 2 years, dedicating 4 hours every Saturday, as well as studying for her GCSEs.

5 Well done Simran!

Kaielum Kerr Year 7

"I have been doing Thai-boxing for about 8 months and I have been training at Fearless MMA based in the Jewellery Quarter. It has taken me about 7 months to get my blue bands. My next band will be blue band 1 and I hope to achieve this in another 6-7 months.

The reason I got into Thai-boxing was because I have tried loads of other sports and I did not like them, but I have found this sport is just right for me. It uses a lot of athleticisms and I have made a lot of friends because of this sport".



Jamie Priddey Year 8

Well done goes to Jamie and his team FC Premier as they won their league and shield. The team scored over 100 goals. The team started playing at the start of last season, prompted by 4 boys, all Q3 students, who decided they wanted to start a team.



In the

SPOTLIGHT



Elizabeth Holder

"On May 29th I went to my Aunties for tea. In the back garden there was a duck and 9 ducklings. They couldn't get out of the garden as they could not fly. We rang for someone to collect them and Burton Wildlife Centre collected them and released them onto a local lake. I felt so happy that they were rescued as the mother duck would have abandoned her babies if they were left any longer. The wildlife centre posted a video on Facebook to show their release".

Dylan Ashwin year 10

Dylan is a member of 196 Walsall Squadron ATC. He was recently part of the Cadets team which went to Wing Athletics. 20 Squadrons took part in a range of sporting events. Dylan came 2nd in the final of the boys 100 metres and his team came 1st in the relay.

Ryan Dorkins Year 7

Congratulations to Ryan who has scored 32 goals in one season for two clubs. He scored 19 for Holy Name FC, helping to save them from relegation and also scored 14 for FC Premier. Ryan plays for the under 12s. One to watch for the future!

Caitlin Lockyer Year 7

"I have been going to Star Makers for many years and I have achieved four awards so far. I enjoy dancing because I get to make friends and it gives me more confidence. This helps me when I am doing my exams in front of a judge."



SIXTH FORM

Sixth Form attend Sponsors' Dinner

Sixth Form students, staff and invited guests from Education and Business were treated to a live violin concert by Violinist Craig Owen just before the Easter Break, as part of the annual Sponsors' Dinner. Students were given a once in a lifetime opportunity to network with representatives from major organisations within the West Midlands and surrounding areas, whilst enjoying a three course meal and a wonderful live concert.

During the evening, achievement awards were presented by Mr Simon Ramshaw, a partner at Anthony Collins Solicitors and a Governor at Q3, assisted by Mr Wiltshire, Head of Sixth Form. Award winners were:

Exemplary attendance: Dan Wilson;
Outstanding effort: Manjeevan Kaur;
Goes above and beyond: Sophie Iroegbunam;
Most improved: Emma Humphrey;
Outstanding role model: Sarah Sparkes;
Demonstrates Academy ethos: Alex Nuttall;
Charity Award: Harsimran Singh;
Personal Achievement Award: Daniel Scott;
Overall contribution to Sixth Form: Elizabeth Robinson;
Student of the Year: Leonie Palmer;
Principals Award: Kieran Rowe;
Sponsors' Award: Daniel Devane.

Congratulations to the students who won awards and to all of our Sixth Form students for their hard work this year – we trust they will all get the examination results they deserve and have worked so hard for!



Sixth Form Leavers Tea Party

Students attended the Leavers' Tea Party in June, which is our annual event to say goodbye and to share memories.

The students wore their leavers' hoodies and had an opportunity to chat together over refreshments of scones, cream and strawberry jam. This was then followed by an assembly in which students were presented with awards and slides of photographs of their time spent at the Academy. It was a very memorable occasion not only for the students, but the staff as well.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our students who are leaving us this year all the best for their future studies.



JETs



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: Shanika Facey, Dan Wilson, Sophie Iroegbunam, Yasmin Singh and Elizabeth Robinson for all their hard work, determination and enthusiasm.

The new JETs are Thom Goodwin, Kieran Rowe, Catherine Brisland, Emma Humphries and Alistair Caswell. We have every confidence that they will be equally as successful in their roles.

"Being a JET brings responsibility, a sense of integrity and respect. We are expected to be good role models for all young students as well as students our own age. This role allows me to improve my leadership and team skills, making my employability stronger and public speaking capabilities better. Taking these factors into account, this role will prepare me for later life after a school environment." -Alistair Caswell

Q3 Election *By Mr J. Mills*

Q3 Academy buzzed with election excitement in the run up to May 7th as students and staff prepared to go to the polls in our first ever mock election.

Organised to promote the value of democracy and to inspire future participation, the election itself was preceded by a week of assemblies which focused on why politics should matter to everyone.

Students were quizzed on current party leaders in the assembly and encouraged to reflect on the sacrifices made in both this country and abroad to secure our right to vote. Many discussions followed the assemblies and several of the female students in particular remarked on the inspiration they found in the work of the Suffrage campaigns of the early 20th century.



Following this, the students returned from their bank holiday weekend to engage with activities in tutor time that were designed to help them decide who to vote for. This decision can be hard enough for adults to make, so the students (and tutors) appreciated the helping hand!

All of this build up led to a real sense of anticipation for the election, as students were overheard discussing policies on the corridor between lessons and arguing over voting in front of one of the many campaign posters that adorned the Academy walls. Some students (and staff!) were even seen taking 'selfies' with the life-size cardboard cut-outs of the party leaders that took pride of place in the design centre.

Students were not forced to vote but many chose to deposit their papers into the purpose built ballot boxes, which were manned and guarded throughout break and lunchtime by Caleb Woodall, Charlotte Smith, Dominic Haywood and Alex Haywood.



The icing on the cake for the day was undoubtedly the visit from BBC Midlands Today and the appearance of students and staff on successive editions of the programme throughout the day. The piece gave a wonderful reflection of the engagement of the students with the issues at stake and was a wonderful advert for the Academy.

The final, frantic count took place during the last lesson of the day, ably assisted by Politics and Business students of a range of ages. Staff support for this final, crucial stage was also given by Miss Payton and our very own veteran of real life Parliamentary election counts, Mrs Noakes.

When the count was done, with over 900 votes cast, the Labour Party emerged victorious by a margin of almost 100 votes.

Needless to say we failed to predict the real outcome, but we certainly equipped and inspired a future generation of voters.



French Trip to Normandy *By Mr L. Price*

During the Easter holidays, over 100 of our Year 8 students took part in an exciting, immersive experience and had a wonderful time soaking up the French language and culture at Château du Tertre in Normandy.

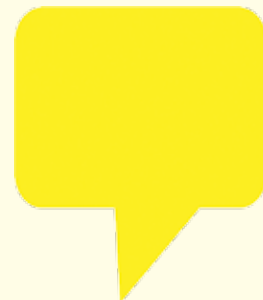


Whether it was buying authentic French food at the local markets, following the production line from cow to packaged-cheese, hand-making croissants under the guidance of a French baker at his boulangerie, or exploring the famous Mont St Michel, the students had an amazing, albeit exhausting time.

We were pleased to welcome two unexpected Inspectors from Sandwell Local Education Authority who joined in with the fun, and agreed that this was such an exceptional experience for our young linguists.



COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY



As we come to the end of another fantastic year in Communications Company, it is important to reflect on just how great the 2014/2015 Academic year has been. As the Year 11 students say an emotional goodbye and

the Year 7 students look back on the year that has passed, it is clear how momentous this year has been. We have raised money, as a company, for the Birmingham Christmas Shelter. As individuals, every Communications student and member of staff will have their own highlights. Here are just a few. - Mr C. Bailey

Comms' Q&A

Alfie Burge - My Year 7 Journey

Alfie Burge has spent this academic year getting used to Q3 Academy, he has represented the Academy in the football team, engaged in a number of educational opportunities and is now preparing himself for his second year.

How do you feel that your first year at Q3 Academy is over? *"It has passed by very quickly, it has been fun and I have really enjoyed it."*

What is your favourite memory of this year? *"The Geography trip to Lichfield with Miss Payton was great. It was really good because we were learning Geography and enjoying ourselves as well."*

What is your proudest achievement of the year? *"I have played every game for the school football team this year and we are now in the finals of the Sandwell Cup. I can't wait."*

What are you looking forward to next year? *"Being a part of the Communications Student Council and having a chance to represent my tutor group. Also I can't wait to go on the France trip with Mr Price."*

What would you say to someone starting in Year 7 next year? *"It's not scary like you think it will be, everyone here is nice and helpful to each other."*



In the

SPOTLIGHT



Lewis Bradbury

"I first started Karate when I was 10 years old. I started it as a hobby after being inspired by my uncle but it wasn't until I was 12 that I was first interested in competition.

After a year of competing at low level competitions and without a medal to my name, I decided to take my training more seriously. I began a more rigorous training programme, training over six hours a week at my club and also training in my own time at home. I had a new found commitment to improving my skillset and I craved success; I constantly increased how hard I trained, pushing the boundaries and dedicating all of my time to fitness, technical, speed and reactionary training until I began medalling.

Just before my 14th Birthday I came second in a national level Japan Karate Shotorenmei (JKS) competition, winning a silver medal whilst at the bottom of the age range. From this stage my form began on an uphill sprint, being selected for JKS International Elite Squads and EKF squads. Last year I gained commendations such as: JKS English Champion, JKS European Bronze, and various international WKF medals. Now I've been selected for multiple JKS International competitions as part of an elite squad and I'm also in the pool for International WKF competitions. I am proud of my achievements so far, and am a firm believer, that in order to succeed you have to push yourself to limits you didn't know existed".

Celebrity Chef gives Q3 students a Culinary Masterclass

By Mrs E. Griffiths



Celebrity Chef Paul Rankin (Ready Steady Cook, Great British Menu, and Saturday Kitchen) demonstrated why he is at the top of his profession when he dropped into Q3 Academy to give students and staff a lesson in healthy eating on behalf of Sodexo (the Academy's catering providers).

He demonstrated how to make quesadillas and fresh salsa, which the students took great delight in preparing and serving. He answered questions whilst at the stove, including his experiences of cooking with and for celebrities including Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts and Meryl Streep. He even helped prepare and serve lunch for all students and staff during the day.

When asked about the visit Paul said: "It is so rewarding to help children understand and discover the joy of food and cooking when you talk to them with respect, they just get it".

Student, Asha Bains who was part of the masterclass expressed her happiness at being involved in such an event by saying it was a "privilege to have an opportunity like this".

ACF – Onwards and Upwards: Progression and Promotion *by Mr C. Bailey*

As we come to the end of the Academic year, and the Army Cadet Force Annual Summer Camp approaches, it is a good time to assess the development of the Cadets at the Q3 Detachment.

The progress that we have seen this year has been substantial, with the majority of Cadets 'passing' their current level and achieving new levels. A number of our 'basic cadets' have achieved their 'one star' qualification and our 'one star' cadets are heading towards and achieving their 'two star' awards.

This progression has been epitomised by the promotion of Cadet James Hall. Cadet Hall, along with his fellow cadets, has seen an improvement in his self-confidence, independence and ability to work with others. This has been recognised by staff at the detachment and at county level, when Cadet Hall attended weekend camps.

Cadet Hall's progression has led to him becoming the first of our Cadets to achieve promotion to a Non-Commissioned Officer post of Lance Corporal.

As a detachment we are now hopeful that we will continue to grow and see more of our senior cadets promoted.



Head Start: LionHeart Challenge *by Mr A. Nore*

Year 9 pupils from our Academy took part in the Regional Finals of the LionHeart Challenge Programme at Tally Ho in Birmingham, which is commissioned by the West Midlands Police as a direct outreach to young people across the West Midlands.

Pupils worked interactively with local police officer PC Treasure from Sandwell Police, to consider which crimes were of greatest frequency and concern to them in their local area.

Each team then chose one key crime issue which they believed was the most prevalent and of greatest concern within their community and devised the following target outcomes to address the issues:

- A creative and innovative solution to the crime in question.
- A marketing plan to communicate the solution to their target audience
- A financial plan to demonstrate funding
- A formal presentation to a panel of judges from real businesses and high ranking police officer.

After a fantastic presentation, our Academy picked up several awards for best marketing, best final presentation as well as the overall winners award.

Q3 Academy will now represent the West Midlands in the National Finals in Manchester in October 2015. We wish them all the very best of luck.



Councillor Julie Webb Inspires Q3 students



Students in Year 12 welcomed Deputy Mayor of Sandwell, Councillor Julie Webb to an Aspire lesson in June.

Aspire is a bespoke course designed by the Black Country Chamber of Commerce, HUF UK and staff at the Academy. As part of the course external senior leaders give up their time to conduct interviews, allow work shadowing sessions and provide insights into working life.

Vice Principal Mr Peter Lee said *"We are delighted to welcome the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Julie Webb to Q3 Academy, as it is another opportunity for our Aspire students to explore the world of Politics."*

The Big First Aid Lesson *by Miss L. Chamberlin*

On Friday 12th June 32 Year 7 students had the opportunity to take part in this year's Big First Aid lesson. This is an annual event hosted by Claudia Winkleman which is streamed live by St John Ambulance.

It gives students a chance to learn skills which could potentially save a life, including:

- Head injuries
- Strains and sprains
- Severe allergic reaction
- Asthma attack

Students were able to watch real life scenarios as well as listen to advice from trained St John Ambulance volunteers.

Students were then able to show how much they had learned during a quiz following the live stream and have now all been awarded with participation certificates.





LIFESTYLE COMPANY



I am delighted that we, as a Lifestyle family, worked together as a team to deliver the best Lifestyle Charity Day ever. I am in no doubt that the money which we raised will certainly help those

who desperately need our help in Nepal. This couldn't have been done without all your support. Thank You.

- Mr A. Nore

Achievements

Zara Hale Year 9

Zara took part in a 40 mile sponsored expedition around Cannock Chase, the "Chase Walk". She managed an incredible 16 miles in approximately 6.5 hours and was sponsored by friends, family and Q3 teachers, totalling £240! The money Zara raised went to support Cancer Research UK. "The reason I chose to support Cancer Research UK was because my Nan died of Lymphatic cancer, so it meant a lot to me to raise money that can help doctors & nurses cure cancer and in turn not go through what my family went through."

Well done Zara!

Amy Brandon Year 8

"I have been dancing since the age of 5 with Silhouette School of Dance in Great Barr. I started dancing after watching the Nutcracker ballet on the television. Every 2 years I take dance exams in tap, modern and theatre craft and the years in between the exams are used to perform dance shows. This year's dance show is called 'Music Through the Ages' and I am looking forward to using the theatre here at Q3 for the first time in November. I will be including dancing as part of my GCSE in PE"



In the

SPOTLIGHT



Ibukun Adegoke

“Since I was 11 years of age, God has blessed me with the talent of playing drums. At 11 years old, I was a shy and timid individual who did not realise his talents so the first time I played was when someone called me on stage and I reluctantly played. From here onwards I have never looked back. Since then I have had a number of years’ experience playing in many functions at my local Church as well as my band. As a person, I have truly evolved in drumming by learning from more skilful drum players with humility. Hopefully I’ll better Travis Baker soon”.

Amy Brandon Year 8

“Every Tuesday I join in a rounders’ club at Q3 Academy with other girls in Year 7.

I think that it is a wonderful experience to be involved in rounders’ as the staff are very supportive, but also because I am also very excited to be competing against other schools.

We all support and encourage each other to do our best which is such an amazing opportunity for all of us to take part in”.

Sandeep Beedh Yr11

“Hi my name is Sandeep and over the last few years I have been fascinated by Dhol Drumming.

For me, it brings me closer to my cultural roots and heritage and also I love dancing to it.

It is a difficult skill to master and has taken me a long time to learn.

This is my passion and I will continue to do this as long as I can”.

LIFESTYLE Charity Day



On Friday 12th June 2015, Lifestyle held its annual Charity Day, raising money for the British Red Cross supporting the Nepal Earthquake appeal.

During the event, we were lucky to be working very closely with Aston Villa Football Club who brought along their Mascot and AVTA presenter Jack Woodward.

Pupils had the opportunity to take penalty shootouts with the Mascot in Goal. Aston Villa also donated some amazing prizes such as a signed Villa Football Shirt, Signed Football, match day tickets as well as stadium tour tickets which were raffled.

Overall, everyone in the Academy enjoyed the event and we raised a total amount of £826 which will make a massive difference to the people who need it the most in Nepal.

Thank you to everyone who took part in making this event a success!





Sport at Q3 Academy

Ski and Snowboarding trip

Students and staff participated in the annual skiing and snowboarding trip to Austria. The resort of Axamer Lizum near Innsbruck is located in a stunning part of the Tyrolean Alps where students received four hours of lessons per day.

All students made excellent progress during the week and competed in a slalom race after which they received either a bronze, silver or gold medal depending upon their finish time. Year 12 student Harry Steel was the quickest skier and year 13 student Connor Maguire the quickest snowboarder. Details for next year's trip will be available soon.



Sport Leaders

Year 11 students are coming to the end of their Level 1 Sport Leaders Programme which will culminate in each student demonstrating one hour of leadership.

The year 12 Level 2 Sport Leaders are also coming to the end of their course and have completed six units of work; developing leadership skills, leading activities that promote a healthy, active lifestyle, making activity sessions inclusive, positive role models in sport and pathways in sport and recreation. To successfully gain their qualification, the group must demonstrate ten hours of leadership, and have already organised and delivered a multi-skills session to year 2 students at Ferndale. They are currently in the planning stages of an inter-company football competition, which they will be running for Q3 students during National School Sports Week. The group are on target to pass the course following completion of their ten hours of leadership in July.

The Level 3 Sport Leaders are currently volunteering within the community to gain their thirty hours of leadership, working within holiday play schemes, community coaching schemes and local primary schools to gain diverse experience and fulfil the requirements of their qualification. They have shown exceptional levels of commitment and they are also all on track to successfully complete their course in July.

Lewis Karate

Another sporting achievement for Q3 Academy was Lewis Bradbury, who battled his way to the Bronze medal for his efforts at the Yorkshire Open Karate Championships.

Under WKF rules the event itself was of a high standard and Lewis was able to compete against 16-17 year olds and hold his own. It was the first outing for him in this category since turning 16.

Huge congratulations to Lewis.



Primary School Gifted and Talented Programme

Thirty Year 5 students from three local primary schools have been attending sessions at Q3 to stretch and challenge their skills in non-core subjects.

During the first session they worked with the PE department and Level 2 Sport Leaders, learning how to plan and lead a warm-up and new skills in badminton and basketball.

National Sports Week

Q3 Academy celebrated National School Sports week by running an inter-company competition for all staff and students. Scores were collected all week for participation in a number of activities which were run by the PE department before school, during lessons and at break times. The challenges included rowing, penalty shoot-outs against teachers, golf chipping, basketball shooting and rounder's and softball tournaments. It created a fantastic buzz within the Academy and the competitive spirit saw staff and students turning up daily to gain points with the aim of helping their company win. By Friday Social Design were crowned victorious for the student competition gaining 648 points, and Communications won the staff competition accumulating a total of 272 points. Well done to everyone who took part and assisted in running the activities.



Primary Enterprise Challenge

by Miss J. Lones-Greaves

On Friday 22nd May, Grove Vale, St Margaret's and Hamstead Junior School took part in Q3 Academy's second Primary Enterprise Challenge.

They had a week to come up with an item or a concept before setting up a trade stand. They then had an opportunity to sell their items and gain feedback, before delivering a presentation in front of a panel of judges.

Grove Vale designed a Memory Aid to help remember important dates and appointments. St Margaret's sold flavoured popcorn and donated all profits from their sales to the Nepal appeal. Hamstead Junior

School designed and produced a school newspaper. We were so impressed with each group's professionalism.

This year's judges were:

Paul Hunt and Jade Smith from Hays Recruitment, Sally Stone from SIPS education Ltd, Kimberley Sangha from Aston Villa and our very own Mr Nore.

The Judges had an almost impossible task in deciding on the winner, all the students did a fantastic job and worked so well as a team, but in the end the Primary Enterprise Challenge winners for 2015 were Hamstead Junior School.

During the groups presentation they offered a reduced price for advertising space within the newspaper's next edition and sold two of these spaces for £50 each during the day.

Well done to all the students who took part!



Mock Trial Competition *by Miss L. Chaimberlin*



Q3 Students represented our Academy at the Birmingham heat of the Citizenship Foundation's Mock Trial Competition.

Dressed in 'character', students presented a case they had been studying for the past few months to real life Magistrates whilst competing with other schools.

Our defence team won the first case and our defendant was found not guilty.

Our prosecution team did not get the result they were hoping for, with the magistrates deciding the defendant was not guilty, although this was clearly a tough decision as scoring between schools was very close.

Support from Q3 Academy parents was overwhelming and everyone was very impressed with what they had seen.

It was an extremely positive day enjoyed by all of our students. 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 understand 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.

DISCOVERY COMPANY



The students of the Discovery Company have had a fantastic year! We are lucky enough to have a multitude of students with a varied and interesting skill set. We are extremely proud of the achievements and many talents that they

possess. Over the year, we have managed to keep our attendance above the Academy target and we still have over 40 students within our company celebrating 100% attendance, which is a superb achievement and demonstrates the students' dedication to their learning. We continue to be proud of each and every one of our students and their outstanding achievements. - Miss M. Samuel

Achievements

Olivia Prosser Year 9

Olivia is a very gifted performer and is often part of school performances and shows. She will soon be performing in a show based in Birmingham city centre called the 'Handsworth Gang Show', where she will be singing and dancing as well as acting. Good luck Olivia!

Adam Lubin Year 12

Adam Lubin has recently gained the Queens Scout Award, the highest award in the scouts and went to Windsor Castle to parade and pick up the award. He was lucky enough to meet the Duchess of Gloucester and even got Bear Grylls autograph!

Adam has also done really well in athletics for Birchfield Harriers and has recently achieved 2nd place in the West Midlands for triple jump.

These are fantastic achievements and Adam is a fantastic role model for our younger students! Well done Adam!



Holly Forrester Year 10

Well done to Holly who beautifully sang Etta James' 'At Last' as a celebratory treat for our Y13s who will be leaving us shortly. As ever, Holly proved that she is courageous enough to sing in front of a large audience and again demonstrated her amazing singing talent.

In the

SPOTLIGHT



Ryan Morris

"I have been interested in special effects and prosthetics for a while. I have learned a lot of techniques off the internet but recently I was lucky enough to join a make up crew

at the base on the movie set for "She who brings Gifts" directed by Colm McCarthy , starring Glenn Close and Gemma Arterton.

I learned much more watching the professionals in action. After a few hours I was allowed to make up "hungries" (Zombies). I used latex and prosthetics on their faces and ash powder in their hair.

We were all taken by coach to the actual set where I watched the filming in progress. As soon as the director said "cut" our team had to run on and re do the Zombie faces. After filming I was shown how the sfx make up was taken off. It was a long day 6.00am until 8.30pm but it was absolutely brilliant. I was asked back to a location in Birmingham the following Tuesday to help out again. The street was closed off and dressed like a dystopian future. I worked with the Sfx and prosthetics team again and had to help place the "hungries" onto the set.

It was such a great experience and one that I will never forget. I would like to study prosthetics and special effects at university with the hope of going into the film and television industry in the future".

Sport at Q3 Academy

Girls Football

Staff and students at Q3 Academy were celebrating on the final day of spring term as their girls' football team smashed their way through to win the regional football tournament at Wolverhampton Wanderers FC.

They represented West Bromwich Albion and played against other areas including Derby County, Aston Villa, Wolverhampton Wanderers and Stoke City.

They were undefeated in the league stages, either winning or drawing against their opposition. They managed to get through to the final where they played Wolves FC and after a superb strike from Toni Kingscott, won 1-0! They were also lucky enough to meet some of the Wolves players and a Birmingham City Ladies player.

Miss Samuel said: "It is the highest standard of football that I have seen the girls play in all of my time at Q3 and they most definitely rose to the occasion. I am extremely proud of the girls and the sterling performances that they displayed"



Boys Football

Following the return to school after Easter Q3 football teams have been busy in the Sandwell Schools FA Cup. The first round of the Cup saw all year groups drawn against RSA Academy. With some very closely contested fixtures, Q3 were victorious in all year groups except year 10. The performance of the round must go to year 9, winning the game 7-0.

In the Quarter Finals year 7, 8 and were drawn against Shireland and year 11 played Bristnall Hall. All teams successfully progressed with the exception of year 9. Unfortunately year 8's Cup run was halted at the Semi Final stage with a defeat against St Michaels C of E School. All other sides are awaiting the results of other Quarter Finals to find out their Semi Final opponents.

Girls Rounders

The rounders league got off to a flying start with our U14 and year 7 teams winning in their first games against Stuart Bathurst. The year 7 team demonstrated slick fielding and consistently effective batting tactics to win by a massive 14 ½ to 6 rounders. However, the U14 team faced tougher opposition, but they remained calm under pressure to win 14 to 11. We anticipate our strong start will continue for the rest of the season and hopefully we will finish top of the Sandwell Schools league.

Boys Rugby

It's been a successful and rewarding year for Q3 Academy's Key Stage 3 Boys rugby team. Undefeated in all matches and champions of the Black Country Schools Cup, the boys have trained hard and played hard for the results achieved.

Their first match against Moreton School, a specialist rugby academy, was a baptism of fire.

During a tough encounter to watch, let alone play, the boys had to tackle bravely in defence to regain possession of the ball before breaking quickly to score a multiple of tries which secured their first win of the season.

Rugby is now developing into a more popular activity within the Academy and we look forward to organising more teams and more fixtures next season.



Sandwell Schools Athletics Championship

On Tuesday 28th April Q3 Academy took a team of students to compete in the Sandwell Schools Athletics Championship at Tipton Sports Academy.

Mr Bailey and Miss Taylor took a large number of students from years 7 – 10 to compete in a wide range of athletics activities. The students represented the Academy fantastically, demonstrating impeccable behaviour and team spirit. Q3 finished in 7th position overall which was a fantastic achievement as our year 11 students didn't compete.

Many of the other schools competing were also represented by their year 11 students. There were some outstanding performances, including; Eloise Evans in year 10 winning 800m by a considerable distance, Kane Lewin winning the year 9 long jump, and Cameron Cheshire and Josh Binanga winning the year 7 800m and 100m respectively. These performances, along with an all-round solid performance by Q3 Academy's year 7 team saw them win the overall year 7 competition and Cameron Cheshire win an award for his individual performance in the 800m.

Cameron, Eloise, Bradley Allan and Alex Bowen were particularly impressive, and have been selected to represent Sandwell at the West Midlands County Athletics Championships on Saturday 13th July at Alexandra Stadium. Our students represented Q3 admirably and we were proud of their positive attitude and commitment.

Bright Stars Awards Evening *by Miss S. Simpson*

On Wednesday 24th June we hosted our annual Bright Stars Award Ceremony, celebrating the success of our students, with special guest Mikail Huggins.

The evening highlighted the achievements of our students across all ages and companies, nominated for their effort and achievements in all subject areas; as well as our Special Award for those students whose achievements have been particularly noteworthy.

We were treated to two wonderful performances by Q3's very own Choir, "The Quavers" and were privileged this year to welcome our special guest Mikail Huggins; a former Dartmouth student. It was particularly inspiring to listen to his journey and his message about the importance of hard work, resilience and perseverance; rather than just a reliance on 'talent' to bring success in life.

Mikail is a guide runner for 22 year old athlete Libby Clegg, who has little or no vision. Mikail runs alongside her, representing Great Britain at some of the top sporting events in the world; winning a Silver medal in the Paralympics in London 2012 and Gold in the Commonwealth Games in 2014.

Mikail was generous with his time with Q3 parents and students and his message is one which we hope will inspire and motivate Q3 students to even greater effort and

29 achievement.



Staff Development at Q3 Academy

As the highest achieving Academy in Sandwell, we are committed to the continued learning and development of our staff.

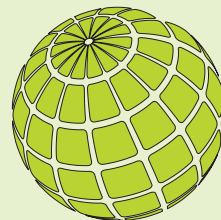
One of our most successful strategies for teachers has been the sharing of our 'best practise'. Our teachers take part in "Open Classroom Learning walks", so that they are able to observe our students learning in different subjects and through different activities.

This enables Q3 students to 'showcase' some of their excellent work. We are then able to share ideas to continue to provide the highest quality education for our students.

Our Open Classrooms occur each term and form a part of our on-going professional development.



SOCIAL DESIGN COMPANY



I would like to take this opportunity to say a massive thank you to all the students and staff in Social Design. Having only recently joined the academy to be the PLD I can honestly say I am humbled by the warmth and welcoming nature of

everyone in the company. While I am still getting to know everyone, the students that I have had the pleasure of working with have astounded me with their amazing talents and academic achievements. There are so many young people in this company with a phenomenal amount of potential that I feel very excited about seeing what the future holds for them. Well done Social Design; keep being the best you can be! - Miss S. Leggett

Achievements

Cameron Cheshire, Eloise Evans and Bradley Allan have been selected to represent Sandwell at the West Midlands County Athletics Championships after their outstanding performance at the Sandwell Schools Athletics Championships. Well done!

Sasha Bunn and Jai Mudhar for being part of the winning team representing the Academy at the regional finals of the Lion Heart Challenge; a Nationwide Enterprise Programme.

Francesca Orthodoxou has gone from strength to strength this year in her sporting prowess and we are proud to report that Francesca has now been offered a professional contract to play for Birmingham City Ladies FC U17.



Cameron Cheshire, Harry Harper and Kyle Bromwich continue to impress this season with their sporting efforts as part of the year 7 football team.

In the

SPOTLIGHT



Ryan Martin

"I have recently joined Q3 academy. I really enjoy BMX riding and ride competitively. I have been world champion for the past 2 years, was very successful in New Zealand and won the championship there 6 times in a row.

My goal for the future is to get to America and race competitively over there and also make it to compete in the Olympics."

Wayne Nyathi Year 7

Wayne a talented young man with a bright future, especially in Rugby, where he continues to impress teachers and coaches from different schools with his drive, determination and skill. Most recently, Wayne won Player of the Tournament in an event organised by Moreton Rugby League Academy in Wolverhampton. Throughout the tournament Q3 Academy played well and won all of their matches to bring home the Black Country League Trophy for the first time in Wayne's age group. Wayne's physical strength, determination and leadership contributed effectively to a great team performance. We wish him every success for the next tournament held at Q3 Academy on Thursday 4th June.



Leavers Prom

by Miss M. Samuel

Our year 11s enjoyed another successful prom at Q3.

Ladies and gentlemen arrived at the Academy in style from a convoy of different vehicles including Porsches, Hummers and even a Harley-Davidson!

Photos were taken on arrival, then students walked the red carpet down to the Design Steps where they were greeted by a party atmosphere.

The party then continued on into Quisine where the students socialised and dined, and then took to the floor to dance the night away, courtesy of student DJ for the night, Imara Coley.





Leavers Service

by Mr R. Machin

As always our year 11s made us proud as we waved goodbye to another fantastic year group. The students were treated to a Subway lunch in the Design Centre where they were able to mingle and reminisce.

After a year group photo, the students took the short walk to St Margaret's church where they shared memories and experiences of their time together.

A huge thank you must be extended to our students who performed at the service; the leavers were treated to a drumming performance, two musical performances and poetry readings. Thanks must also go to our Principal Dr Badyal and Vice Principal Mr Lee, as well as Mr Perrins and Reverend Rutter whose words of wisdom were well received by the group.

We wish all of our Year 11s every success in their future endeavours and look forward to welcoming back our new Sixth Form cohort. Our Q3 family are proud of you all.





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