



Mr Wilson's Weekly Message



For me, Monday was one of the best days of this term so far. During PSHCE in the morning, students discussed difficult issues with confidence and supported one another in learning more about the world around them. They explored important topics such as mental health and social media awareness and did so with maturity and curiosity. I believe school should be a place where students feel they can enquire about issues that are important to them, both within and outside the curriculum.

In the afternoon, students excelled at the four House Competitions hosted by the Heads of Houses. As ever, I was struck by the competitive spirit and enthusiasm of our school community as everyone (students and staff) worked together to produce some brilliant outcomes. The competition I judged asked students to solve a problem, and watching their divergent and creative ways of going about this task, was excellent.

Finally, we have launched our Christmas Hamper Competition this week. We have already had a lot of generous donations from students, staff and the community and I hope this will continue throughout next week. The food items that are donated will be taken to a local food bank to help those in need over the Christmas period. I believe that Christmas is a time of year where we give thanks for what we have and give back to those less fortunate.

House Basketball Competition with Ms Robinson

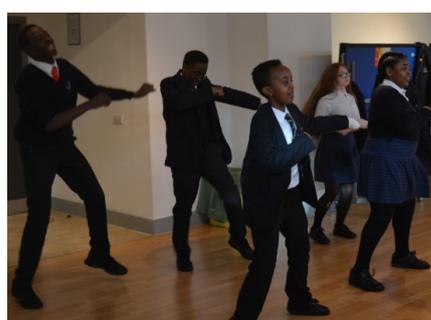
This Wednesday lunch-time, the Sports Hall was taken over by the House Hoop Shoot Competition. Students had one minute each to shoot as many basketballs as they could, whilst working as a team to pass the ball to the shooter, as fast as possible. An incredible 71 students took part in this highly competitive House activity. Veritas stormed to victory, scoring a huge 162 points over the lunch-break, with Caritas in close second. Well done to all students involved and a particular thank you to our House Captains for keeping score– not an easy task during such a high paced competition!



Drop Down Day

As Mr Wilson mentioned, on Monday we had our first drop down day of the year. The morning was dedicated to PSHCE, where all students participated in a range of discussions around their personal health and well-being. Pupils demonstrated incredible maturity and respect throughout the morning, with all of the external providers commenting on how great the students were and how they thoroughly enjoyed working with them.

The afternoon was a much more light hearted affair, with house competitions for all. Competitions included "The Hurlingham Apprentice", Debate Mate, Dodge Ball and Performance. With double points up for grabs in all events, it was all to play for and the pupils really rose to the occasion. Whether debating the prospect of police having guns in Debate Mate, or re-imagining a traditional fairytale in performing arts, it's fair to say every classroom was buzzing with competitive spirit. It was lovely to see so many members of staff also competing. Mr Wilson took on the role of Lord Alan Sugar in The Apprentice – a role he fell into with worrying ease. Every House demonstrated outstanding teamwork, but unfortunately, not everyone could be a winner. By the end of the day, the points stood as follows: 650 points for both Unitas and Aequitas, with a particularly outstanding performance by Aequitas throughout the day, winning 3/4 events. That comeback we predicted may well be on the cards. Caritas came 3rd, leaving poor Veritas in last position. Better luck next time Veritas and don't worry, there will be plenty more opportunities to win points between now and Christmas.



Key dates for week beginning 4th December — week 2

Description	Date	Time
Years 7-10 assessments	04.12.17	All day
Year 11 Mocks – Maths and English	04.12.17 - 08.12.17	Lesson time
PTA Meeting	04.12.17	6pm — Library



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