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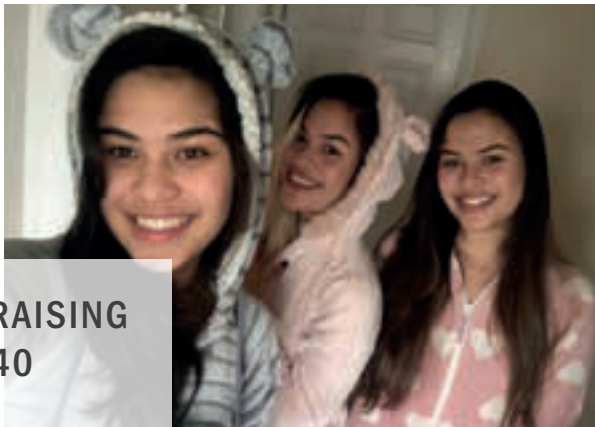


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PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME



‘MUCH OF WHAT WE ARE ABOUT CAN BE SUMMED UP NEATLY BY THE TERM ‘ADDING VALUE.’ PUT SIMPLY, THE DISTANCE TRAVELLED BY A STUDENT AT MPW FROM THEIR STARTING POSITION TO WHAT THEY LEAVE WITH, IS SUPERIOR TO MOST OTHER SCHOOLS.’

Having a successful inspection report does not tell you everything about a school but it does tell you a lot. Obtaining outstanding judgements in all categories supports our aspiration to be one of the leading schools of its type in the country. The comments from Ofsted vindicate this aspiration and it is clear that we are delivering something special. Our genesis is the tutorial college model that provided small class sizes, regular testing and personal care for students. We have now evolved into a flourishing school but thankfully have retained the best features of our original incarnation that sets us apart from other schools. In his bestselling book *Outliers*, Malcolm Gladwell shares the story of the Roseto Mystery in which he describes a village in Pennsylvania, USA, where the residents appear to be remarkably healthy and happy. The reason for the success of the village lies in its sense of community and the willingness of villagers to support and help each other. I feel that something similar exists at MPW Birmingham; we are a community in which students are valued and we strive to support our young people so that like the residents of Roseto our students will be successful and happy.

Much of what we are about can be summed up neatly by the term ‘adding value.’ Put simply, the distance travelled by a student at MPW from their starting position to what they leave with, is superior to most other schools. We know this because for the last four years the highly regarded

school performance system, ALPS, has consistently placed us within the top 10% of providers nationally. This takes some beating and is why you cannot always accurately judge the performance of a school by raw academic results alone. The most discerning and intelligent question a parent should ask any school is what was the starting position of students? High academic results might actually just be a reflection of the fact that students were already at a high level and it is important to ask how value was being added by the school. In our case we know the answer and so do you because we are one of the best value added performers in the country.

The academic achievements of our students sometimes grab the attention of a wider audience and our students currently hold several prestigious prizes following an awards ceremony at the House of Lords. Howard Xu who is studying Mathematics at Jesus College, Oxford won the Gold Award for outstanding academic achievement beating nominations from over 20 other schools. Rosemond Tan who went on to secure a place at King’s College, London to read Medicine won the Economics prize whilst the social sciences award was given to Gaya Ramanathan who is studying Psychology at the University of Warwick. How many of us will receive awards at the House of Lords? Each year at least one student from MPW Birmingham is guaranteed an award because we prioritise rewarding students who make

telling contributions to the community of MPW and the current holder of the Principal’s Award is Chris Moran who is studying Accounting and Finance at the University of Birmingham.

With so much academic success going on and much to celebrate in terms of university places it can be tempting to miss the wonderful achievements of students away from the classroom. At the most recent CIFE Football Tournament held at the FA’s St George’s Park our team reached the final only to fall at the last hurdle to Brookhouse College. Along the way there were some notable victories and beating our bigger sibling MPW London was motivating for the players. Each year our students receive national commendations for their public speaking skills in various debating and MUN events and this time it was no different with Ajeet Bhambra distinguishing himself.

Our students come from a multitude of backgrounds with some travelling considerable journeys to study at MPW, but they all have things in common: an unbridled commitment to be successful, a willingness to make sacrifices and a disposition to be generous in spirit. We know that being successful is never easy but we are confident that MPW will provide the right type of environment needed to increase the chances of success.

Mark Shingleton
Principal



DISNEYLAND PARIS

MPW's A level Economics and Business students embraced the opportunity to visit Disneyland Paris to gain a unique understanding of how the global conglomerate operates so successfully across a wide range of markets. The trip was organised to supplement the students' classroom research into business decision making.

One of the highlights of the trip was when students were able to attend the Business Live! Conference and benefit from first-hand business insight from leading business professionals from The Walt Disney Company, Green and Blacks, Pret A Manger and British Airways. In addition to an inspiring conference where students could apply the theories and concepts discussed in their lessons, students were able to use some of their free time to visit Europe's most visited tourist destination. With two theme parks and over 50 attractions, there was no shortage of fun on the trip and a great time was had by all students!

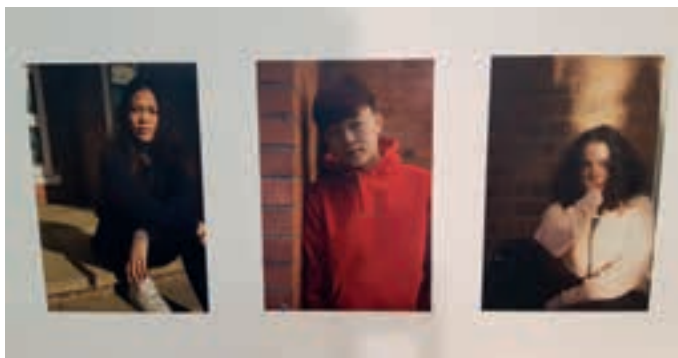
Despite the temptation of one more ride on Big Thunder Mountain, students were able to collect information from around the theme park and then collate data in an official study guide. They applied ideas about branding and decision making to real life case studies across The Walt Disney Company before bringing all of the information back to college to discuss at length with their friends and classmates. Students are now able to use these real life examples to enhance the quality of their written responses in the essay style questions in both the Economics and Business examinations.



AS ART & DESIGN:

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION






This year, Year 12 Art and Design students did something extraordinary. Whilst embarking on the ever exciting journey to discovering who they are as artists, AS Art and Design students concluded their photography module by organising, curating and presenting their own photography in the form of an exhibition. This exhibition of their final negotiated photography projects showed just how creative students take ownership for their learning and express their ideas in a professional and contemporary manner. Each Art student developed a unique and personal concept that they would then communicate using digital photography. Ideas ranged from the visual documentary of Vietnam streets, to the stages of a wilting relationship through the analogy of flowers. Students-turned break through Artists reached deep within in search of a personal response to this project, resulting in off-site photo shoots and interviewing sessions, allowing them to gather all the research and photographs needed for their projects. The dedication and time invested into editing and mounting their final photographs was both impressive and admirable.

Students proceeded by promoting the event and inviting their friends and tutors, but they would soon realise just how nerve wrecking this would turn out to be. One element of the assessment criteria for this module required students to be able to reflect on their creative decisions and discuss their concept in a creative and comprehensive way. This was, without a doubt, very evident as students confidently discussed their ideas and final pieces with peers and staff; hosting the event with ease and finesse. Principal Mark Shingleton, visited the exhibition and quizzed the Artists on their concept and process, proving just how sophisticated and poised they could be. MPW may, on the surface, appear to be a sixth form college but after an event like this, many are convinced that we are the next TATE Modern.

HOUSE OF LORDS CIFE AWARDS CEREMONY:

WHERE DREAMS COME TRUE





**'I NEVER THOUGHT
SUCH A THING WOULD
HAPPEN. I FEEL
SO HONOURED TO
HAVE RECEIVED THIS
AWARD.'**

WINNER OF THE GOLD AWARD – THE TOP PRIZE FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT



HOWARD XU

Mathematics
Jesus College, University of Oxford

This year's awards ceremony took on added significance because for the first time a student from MPW Birmingham won the much-coveted Gold Award. Howard completed A levels in Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Additional Further Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry achieving five A* grades whilst also submitting one of the best projects ever submitted to Edexcel through the EPQ. Howard is an unquestionably talented student, but we like to think that we played a part in his success too! The moral of the story is that whatever the profile of a student, MPW will always endeavour to add value, whether it is a student striving to produce innovative and novel work in mathematics and get into Oxbridge or a student whose confidence was dented at a previous school and achieved outstanding results at MPW.

"I never thought such a thing would happen. I feel so honoured to have received this award. I understand that there are so many talented students who deserve this award and I am happy that I have been chosen. I would like to thank my teachers at MPW but most of all I would like to thank my parents. They have worked hard and made sacrifices so that I can have a better life than them. Their sense of dedication inspires me and motivates me to work even harder. In the future I would like to pass on my passion for mathematics to other young people."

**'MPW CHANGED MY LIFE
AND I HAVE SO MUCH TO
THANK IT FOR.'**





WINNER OF THE PRESTIGIOUS SOCIAL SCIENCES AWARD

GAYA RAMANATHAN

Psychology
University of Warwick

Gaya is a hugely talented student but like any student, she just needed to be in the right environment to get the best from her. She valued the small class sizes and the weekly Timed Assignments (“These could be annoying at times.”)

“Both MPW and I worked hard and I know that I am well equipped to handle the demands of what is needed to become a clinical psychologist.”



WINNER OF THE MPW PRINCIPAL’S AWARD AND AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF OUR CITIZENSHIP SCHEME

CHRIS MORAN

Accounting and Finance
University of Birmingham

Chris demonstrated that it is possible to obtain high academic grades whilst still making valuable contributions to your community. Grades are important and give you more life choices but the quality of your character matters as well and he was a worthy winner of the Principal’s award.

“MPW changed my life and I have so much to thank it for. I have learnt to accept increased responsibility for my actions and develop the type of study habits that are helping me to thrive at university.”

At MPW, we try to encourage our students to have a heightened awareness of the value of their own personal brand. It may seem odd to talk about branding for students but we feel it is highly relevant and helps to cultivate a climate in which students take increased responsibility for their actions.

We see all too often the problems that can arise for businesses when their brand becomes undermined through poor customer service, inferior quality or unreliability. Likewise, with students, if they develop a reputation for lateness or laziness or other negative characteristics then ultimately their chances of success will be greatly undermined. We owe it to these students to try to make them to be aware of what they are doing wrong. This is where our Personal Tutor system comes into its own. Think of them as brand consultants but whose focus is centred purely on improving and developing the branding of the students under their watch.

Having a strong reputation is vital to the success of any organisation or individual and likewise with students at MPW. Engendering this sense of self-awareness can be a learning curve for many students arriving from other schools. In the past, they may have picked up bad habits and these habits have become so embedded that students lose perspective and can be oblivious about how their own personal brand is being perceived.

Getting a student to be aware of problems is half the battle. All too often rather than looking at themselves they blame others for underachievement. Lateness is always someone else's fault and never 'I should really learn to become better organised and leave earlier.' Missing deadlines is often the fault of a printer or having commitments rather than admitting 'Sorry, I did not give this task enough of a high priority.'

The first step in establishing a brand for a student is to get them to identify and agree what their values are. What do they stand for and represent. One example could be as follows:

WHEN PEOPLE MENTION YOUR NAME WHAT DO THEY THINK OF YOU?

- Honest?
- Hardworking?
- Kind?
- Reliable?
- Positive?
- Loyal?

This exercise can sometimes be an eye opening one for students and is the first stage in getting them to develop greater self-awareness. This then leads onto action and developing the type of habits that will establish a first class brand. A plan for action could be:

- Sit Timed Assignments on time
- Revise for Timed Assignments
- Have above 94% attendance
- Be on time to lessons
- Get the balance right between social and academic life
- Be kind
- Be proactive

To help motivate students put these actions into reality Personal Tutors will need to help students identify their goals for the future. In most cases a big part of the success involved in meeting these goals will require students to understand the concept of deferred gratification. Once students master deferred gratification then you can be sure that their personal branding will already be starting to be strong. The feedback we get from our alumni is that when they reach university the good habits they have built up at MPW often help them have superior personal branding to other students.



JACOB MAKES TEAM GB!



Jacob is in his first year of A level studies in German, Maths and Physics. A keen sportsman, Jacob has recently been selected for under-17 British American Football Team. We caught up with Jacob to find out more about what his selection means to him.

CONGRATULATIONS ON GETTING INTO THE NATIONAL UNDER-17 TEAM! YOU MUST BE OVER THE MOON?

"I am! After the trials I tried not to let myself get carried away. There were so many incredible athletes at the West Midlands trials, I can only imagine what the competition was like in London and the other 3 events. I have worked hard this year to achieve this though which makes it feel all the more rewarding."

WHAT WAS INVOLVED IN THE TRIALS?

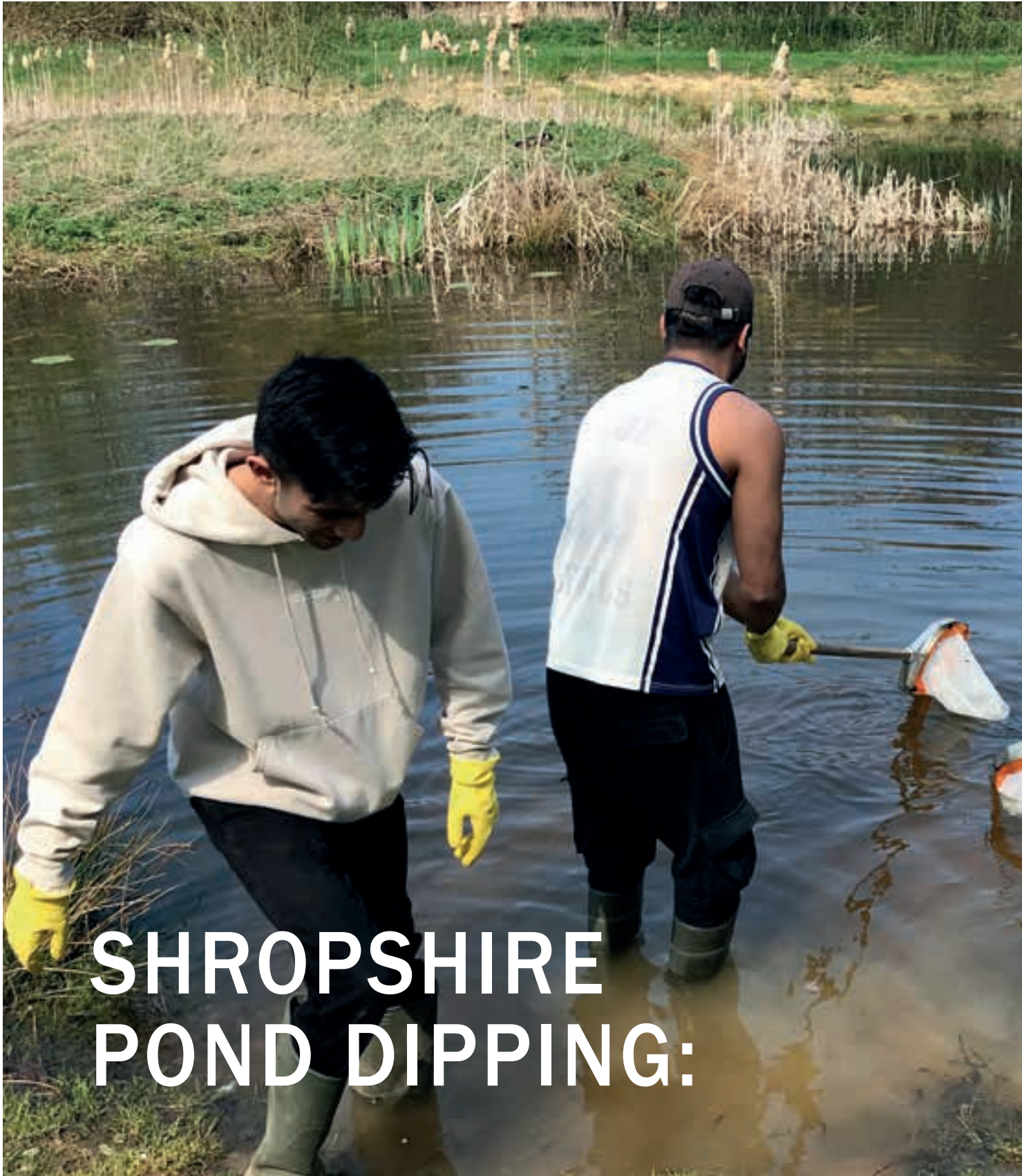
"I was watched in a game playing wide receiver but it was the individual trials that were the most gruelling. They tested me on speed, route running, catching and one-on-one situations. It was tough."

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INTERESTED IN AMERICAN FOOTBALL?

"I watched Super Bowl 48 in 2015. The New England Patriots defeated the Seattle Seahawks. Following that I trained with the Birmingham Bulls before braking my ankle(!) and moving to the Birmingham Lions."

YOU RECENTLY ATTENDED A TRAINING CAMP IN GERMANY. HOW WAS THAT COMPARED TO YOUR EXPERIENCE OF THE SPORT IN THE UK?

"Although it was in Germany, the training camp was very much American. The American coaches were very different to what I had experienced in the UK. They had worked within the NFL and had first-hand experience of what it takes to train and play at the very highest level. It was hard work but I think I was able to keep up with what they expected."



SHROPSHIRE POND DIPPING:



AT PRESTON MONTFORD

In April, the Biology Department ventured out to Preston Montford Field Studies Centre to carry out a day of ecological investigation in preparation for part of their practical assessment. The weather in the weeks leading up to the trip had not been great, so we were hoping that the rain and snow would stay away, at least for a few hours to allow us to collect some data!



Unexpectedly, on the morning of the trip, the sun was shining and was expected to carry on during the day. As a result, we had to make sure that we were covered in sun cream and wearing sun hats rather than wellies and waterproofs. After a short trip out to Shropshire, we arrived at the Field Studies Centre, ready and raring to go.

Our morning session was spent learning about random and systematic sampling techniques and took us to various sites around the centre to investigate woodland, grassland and aquatic ecosystems. These techniques are a crucial part of the AQA A level specification and so gave the students a real opportunity to see for themselves what would be required for their exams.

After a picnic lunch and a bit of sunbathing, we then went back into the classroom to consider individual investigations that would be carried out in the afternoon. This gave our students a great opportunity to flex their muscles on producing their own investigations and consider a title that was of interest to them based on what they had seen in the morning.

We had some really interesting field work carried out by our students including an investigation to study the factors affecting lichen distribution on the north and south sides of a wall, one that looked at the difference in invertebrate diversity in a clean and polluted pond and one that focussed on the impact that grazing has on grassland species.

Overall, the day gave a fantastic opportunity for students to get hands-on experience of a potential dry topic when being taught in a classroom and bring key exam concepts to life.





RELIGION VS SCIENCE DEBATE



MPW has a longstanding debating tradition, competing internally as well as with local and national schools. Perhaps the most exciting internal event this year tackled the philosophy of religion. Students and tutors debated over whether the theory of evolution undermines Christianity? It is the ultimate religion vs science question, in which the conflict of the two has become a contentious area of interest in recent years. Despite the overwhelming evidence, the idea of humans descending from apes is still one that many people grapple with. With Christianity ultimately divided on the matter, our MPW students decided to put forward their own arguments.

A line up of students from all backgrounds spoke strongly both for and against the idea that evolution does indeed pose a threat to the Christian religion. What was however most insightful were the suggestions put forward on how to reconcile the religion with the theory, embodying both the British values of individual liberty and mutual respect. This was done by acknowledging and respecting Christian theology, whilst also recognising the undeniable empirical evidence that science has provided. A general conclusion that emerged was that evolution occurred, but God was ultimately responsible.

The audience too had a chance to participate when the floor was opened up for further discussion. Many students asked pertinent questions and directed them towards their favourite debaters. It certainly got people talking and was overall a fruitful and stimulating debate. With the success of the event, another could be held in the near future delving into other perplexing topics such as life after death, consciousness, or miracles.



**‘IT CERTAINLY GOT
PEOPLE TALKING
AND WAS OVERALL
A FRUITFUL AND
STIMULATING DEBATE.’**

THE SYNTHESIS OF ASPIRIN:

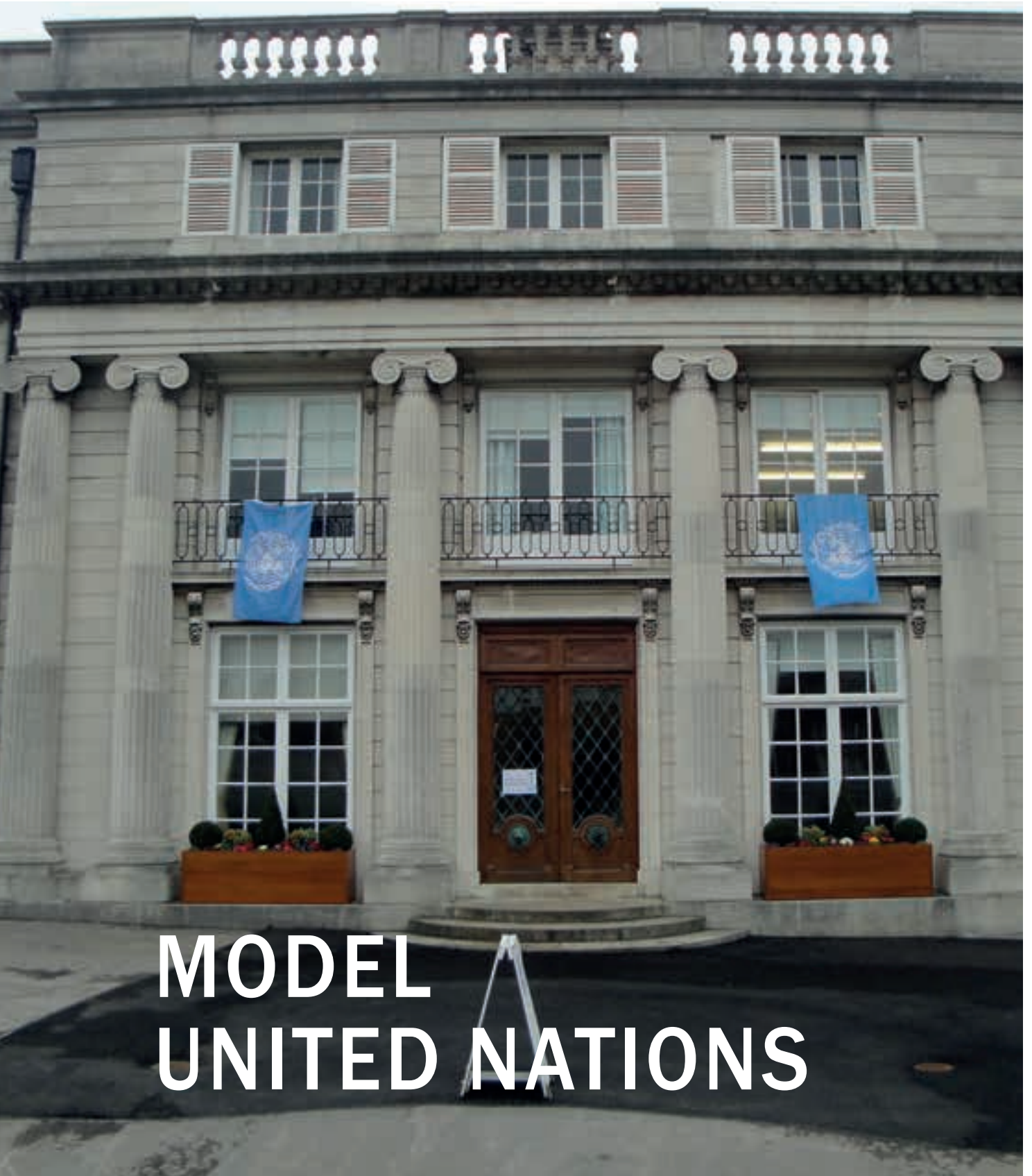
THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM





Each year, MPW students take part in a number of experiments at different universities. This allows students to see the theory they have learnt being put in practice, whilst also offering a genuine degree course experience. At The University of Birmingham, MPW students were invited to the Pharmacy department to synthesise their own samples of aspirin. The students synthesised the crude aspirin using salicylic acid and ethanoic anhydride, a nucleophilic addition elimination reaction that they all know so well from their A level studies. The crude aspirin was then purified using a recrystallisation technique that involved the removal of any impurities from their aspirin crystals. After a long day - and a lot of refluxing and filtering - the students finally obtained some nice looking aspirin crystals. The day was a success with all students creating their own sample of aspirin!





MODEL UNITED NATIONS

Each year, the MPW Debating Team participates in the prestigious Model United Nations (MUN) event at Haileybury College. This year we took 13 students to the event in which participants from all over the world became ambassadors and represented various countries rigorously debating key issues within their committees. Taking place over three days within the beautiful grounds of Haileybury College, involving over 700 students. this year's theme was 'Open Mind Open World'.

We began preparing back in September 2017, with students meeting on a weekly basis practising their public speaking skills, honing in on their ability to reason and argue with clarity and depth. In addition to this, students embarked on extensive research to help with their resolutions, with topics varying from the gender pay gap to the problem of ocean litter. We were chosen to represent the countries Germany and Senegal, with Seika Osafune and Sebastian Patient leading their delegations.

Fully equipped with the knowledge and skills required to present their resolutions, the students arrived at Haileybury on ready for battle. It was certainly a fun fuelled event, with everyone really getting stuck into the debate. Our most experienced MUN student Ajeet Bhambra commendably acted as a chair for the Human Rights committee, whilst supporting other students who were new to the whole experience. Sebastian Patient, who led Senegal, was awarded a certificate in the final ceremony for being an outstanding delegate. Finally, Minelle Sandhu (a first time MUN delegate) was confident enough to move out of her comfort zone and speak in front of a large audience, really embodying what the event is all about – building confidence and engaging in healthy debate.

It was a truly rewarding experience in the sense that students gained invaluable skills, made friends along the way, and attempted to resolve a number of very real contemporary global issues. With preparation already underway for next year's conference, we certainly won't be short of recruiting delegates with many students already eager to participate again.



‘IT WAS A TRULY REWARDING EXPERIENCE IN THE SENSE THAT STUDENTS GAINED INVALUABLE SKILLS, MADE FRIENDS ALONG THE WAY, AND ATTEMPTED TO RESOLVE A NUMBER OF VERY REAL CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL ISSUES.’





At the end of the academic year, our first year A level students continue their extensive programme of research into University choices and preparation for applying to university. This year, after two weeks of personal statement writing, careers talks, registering with UCAS and researching potential courses and universities, we paid a visit to the University of Bristol open day so that the students could experience for themselves what a top tier university was like.

YEAR 12 ON TOUR!

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL OPEN DAY

Before applying to university at the start of their second year, it is absolutely vital that A Level students visit any university which they are seriously considering applying to. Universities differ to such great extents, both in their general characteristics and in the courses they offer. There are also major differences between similar courses at different universities; so while it may seem that a Biochemistry course at Birmingham will be the same as one at Liverpool, there will often be massive difference, both in course content and structure. It is often only possible to appreciate these differences when you have visited the university and been to the department you are interested in to research the course. In addition to this, the general characteristics of each university are very different. Some students really enjoy the secluded nature of a rural campus university, while others prefer the hustle and bustle of a busy city university.

**‘IT IS ABSOLUTELY
VITAL THAT STUDENTS
VISIT ANY UNIVERSITY
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APPLYING TO.’**

We left for Bristol early in the morning to give us maximum time to explore the university and attend as many subject talks as possible. Many students were particularly interested in the Medicine and Dentistry talks, although there were significant numbers looking to visit a wide range of subject areas.

Our journey went smoothly, and when we arrived, the sun was shining and this gave us a perfect opportunity to explore the entire campus without getting wet!

The subject talks were very well constructed and gave the students essential information on course content and structure. At the same time, many students picked up tips on exactly what the admissions tutors look for in a competitive application; points that will no doubt prove useful when completing a UCAS application.

The University of Bristol has some beautiful buildings, both old and new and our students were able to get a real feel for what the character of the university was like. At the end of the day, all students agreed that the visit had been an invaluable experience and had given them a real insight into the type of university they might like to study at and the subject they might want to study.

WATER SPORTS



Being located so close to the heart of the city means MPW College is in walking distance of a whole host of attractions including the Mailbox, Birmingham Library, The IKON Gallery and Millennium Point. Somewhere less well known is Edgbaston Reservoir. Located a short walk from the college, the 70 acre site is home to the Midland Sailing Club as well as Birmingham Rowing Club.

As part of the college enrichment program, MPW students are able to use the reservoir and participate in various water sports activities. Displayed here are photographs taken from one of our trips to the reservoir.

The day started with team Kayaking activities, which helped the students to improve their skills but as well as gain confidence in the water. Many of the international students had not been in open water before and were anxious about what lay ahead. With the support of some of the more experienced domestic students, they soon gained confidence and started to thrive and enjoy the experience.

As the day progressed, more competitive races took place. To ensure this was a balanced affair, the more confident students were paired with those who had little experience in the water. After some close Kayak races, the day ended with some open water swimming races, which were extremely close!





AWARDS EVENING

Once again, December heralded our annual prize giving event at the college. As always with prize giving, it is a fantastic opportunity to meet students after their first term at university and see the progress they have made. There is no doubt that the students always find their first term challenging, but always comment on how their A level studies have helped them to prepare for this. It is also a great chance to formally share the achievements of the students with parents and friends as well as colleagues.

As always, there was a real celebratory feel about the evening. Our guest of honour this year was Tim Naylor who presented the prizes to our prize winners and gave an inspirational talk to us. Our Principal, Mark also spoke to us and reiterated the idea that with hard work and determination anything is possible.



The prizes awarded to each student along with a short overview of their achievements are as follows:

THE VALUE ADDED AWARD – JOHNNY MORRIS

Johnny joined MPW after completing his A levels at the Royal Grammar School, Worcester, where he obtained grades BCC in History, Business Studies and Politics. At MPW Johnny studied Business Studies, Politics and History and in the summer exams secured grades A*AA. Johnny is currently studying Business and Management at the University of Exeter.

THE GCSE AWARD – JASBIR BANWAIT

Jasbir joined MPW from Wolverhampton Grammar School to study a two-year GCSE programme, obtaining grades A*A*A*A*AAAA, plus 7 for Maths. Jasbir then stayed on within the sixth form at MPW and is currently studying a two-year A level programme in Biology, Chemistry and Mathematics.

THE NCUK AWARD – IRETIDAYO ZACCHEAUS

Iretidayo joined MPW from Nigeria to join our new NCUK foundation course. On completion of the course Iretidayo was also awarded the NCUK Award: International Foundation Year – Top Performing Student. Iretidayo is now studying Business and Economics at the University of Manchester.

THE NIKUL PATEL MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS – SYLVIA XIE

Sylvia joined MPW to study a two-year A level programme in Mathematics, Physics and Chinese. In the summer exams, she obtained grades A*AA respectively with a grade B in AS level Economics. Sylvia is now reading Accounting and Finance at the University of Warwick.

THE HUMANITIES AWARD – ELA OLUWOLE

Ela joined MPW to study a two-year A level programme in Economics, Biology and History. At the conclusion of her A levels, Ela secured grades A*AA and is now reading Law at the London School of Economics.

THE DENTISTRY AWARD – SHIVALI PATHAK

Shivali transferred to MPW after completing her A levels at King Edward VI High School for Girls where she obtained grades BBC in Biology, Chemistry and Geography. During her time here, Shivali studied Biology, Chemistry and ultimately achieved three A grades. Shivali is now studying Dentistry at the University of Leeds.

THE MEDICAL AWARD – CHARLOTTE COOKE

Charlotte transferred to MPW after completing her A levels at Haybridge High School, where she had obtained grades ABB in Spanish, Biology and Chemistry and grade B in AS Physics. At MPW she completed a one-year A level programme in Chemistry and Biology, achieving grades A*A and won a place to read Medicine at the University of Liverpool.

THE RIYA DANDEKAR MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING – DARIUS SHOJA-ASSADI

Darius joined MPW college after completing his A levels at Solihull School where he achieved grades AAB in Biology, Chemistry, History and Mathematics. At MPW Darius completed a one-year A level programme in Economics gaining an A*. Darius is now reading Philosophy, Politics and Economics at the University College London.

THE OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – HOWARD XU

Howard joined MPW to complete a one-year A level programme in Chemistry, Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Additional Further Mathematics and Physics. In the summer exams, Howard obtained grades A*A*A*A*A* and he also gained A* in his Extended Project Qualification (EPQ). Howard won a place to read Mathematics at Jesus College, Oxford.

THE PRINCIPAL'S AWARD – CHRIS MORAN

Chris joined MPW after completing his GCSEs at The King's School, Worcester. At MPW Chris completed a two-year A level programme in Business Studies, Economics and Law gaining grades AAB. Chris won a place to read Accounting and Finance at the University of Birmingham.

This year has seen a record number of Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) submissions on a wide range of topics. The students are given the chance to submit a 5,000 word dissertation style essay on a subject of their choice as well as deliver a presentation on their work to a panel of non- specialist academics. Students who walk away with a qualification which is equivalent to 70 UCAS points, a higher tally of points than a similar grade in the reformed AS levels.

This year the students have been extra creative in their delivery of their topics. Suvan Basandrai used props in his presentation discussing the implications of Asthma and COPD on the British population in recent years. Two students (Yixiao Yang and Claudia Gaspar) used their creativity in art based subjects to submit artefacts linked to their chosen projects. Harisha, who achieved an A grade in her project concerning the effects of natural disasters on LEDC's and MEDC's, stated; 'completing the EPQ has really increased my confidence and I have been able to apply a wide range of transferable skills to my other A-level subjects.'

Pictured is Yixiao Yang's painting that was a response to her research into the work of JW Turner. Yixiao's project encompassed everything the Extended Project Qualification is about with an in depth exploration into the ideas and processes of the painter that culminated in a private viewing of Turner's sketchbooks and paintings at the Tate Gallery, London.



THE EXTENDED PROJECT QUALIFICATION

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT



MPW's A level Economics and Politics students were treated to a tour of the Houses of Parliament in December 2017. Despite leaving Birmingham in the midst of a snow blizzard, students travelled by train to London and were met by glorious sunshine! The trip was organised to supplement the students' classroom research into the role of government in central decision making and the necessity of upholding democracy in a modern Britain.

In addition to an inspiring tour of both the House of Commons and House of Lords, students engaged in an interactive classroom based discussion about legislative reforms. Students were subsequently given the opportunity to create their own manifestos in small groups before seeking votes from their teachers and classmates.

One of the highlights of the trip was the opportunity to watch a debate in the House of Lords on educational reforms, hearing at first-hand the viewpoint of the Archbishop of Canterbury amongst many established peers. Students were able to collect information from all of the displays and then collate data in an official study guide before bringing all of the information back to college to continue developing their understanding in preparation for the public examinations in the summer.



With so much going on at MPW College Birmingham, we are constantly updating our social media feeds. To follow us go to

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MPWBIRMINGHAM

and search for **@MPWBIRMINGHAM** on Twitter.



'GETTING INTO...' AUTHORS

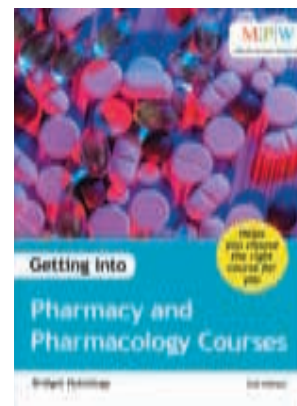
CAREERS GUIDANCE

During their time at MPW Birmingham, students receive a wide range of support to help them to achieve the best possible academic grades, but probably one of the most important areas of support relates to careers guidance. Our pastoral team pride themselves on their knowledge of different vocations and the personal tutors use this information to help students gain entry to the most highly competitive courses. This expertise enables our students to make informed choices about how to achieve their future ambitions.

Our teachers have taken their interest in careers guidance and support to the next level by penning three of the MPW "Getting Into" guides. The "Getting Into" series of books aim to give would-be students a head start when applying for the most competitive undergraduate courses and universities. They offer applicants straightforward, practical advice on how to secure a place on the course of their choice and provides an honest view of what it's like to study the subject, detailed advice on choosing the right university or college and guidance on the application procedure and interviews.

Our three authors are Adam Cross, who writes *Getting Into Dental School*, Bridget Hutchings, who writes *Getting Into Pharmacy and Pharmacology* and Emily Lucas, who has just published *Getting into Law*.

**'THIS EXPERTISE ENABLES
OUR STUDENTS TO MAKE INFORMED
CHOICES ABOUT HOW TO ACHIEVE
THEIR FUTURE AMBITIONS.'**



GETTING INTO DENTISTRY – ADAM CROSS

Adam Cross is Vice Principal at MPW Birmingham and has many years' experience helping students to gain entry onto highly competitive courses including Dentistry and Medicine. He also supports students with preparation for MMI and Panel Interviews

"I have authored getting into Dental School since 2011 and have been amazed by the changes that have occurred to the admissions process in this relatively short time. Writing each edition of the book is extremely enjoyable and gives me the opportunity to contact all of the University Dental Schools and discuss the intricacies of the process. This allows me to gain real insight

into what each university is looking for and gather snippets of information that can help students to get ahead of the other applicants. The information I manage to piece together is something that I then use on a daily basis to advise the students I work with at MPW Birmingham. Another enjoyable aspect of the process is that it allows me to speak to dental students and practising dentists and get a feel for what they like about their vocation and the inherent challenges they face. I would suggest that any prospective dentist picks up a copy of the book as it has information from a massive range of sources in one easy accessible place."

GETTING INTO PHARMACY AND PHARMACOLOGY – BRIDGET HUTCHINGS

Bridget Hutchings is Head of Learning Support at MPW Birmingham and works closely with students to guide them through the UCAS process. Interestingly, Bridget's great-grandfather opened the first branch of Boots in Yorkshire and her interest in the world of Pharmacy has stemmed from this.

"Whilst writing the book, I really enjoyed visiting universities such as Keele and Aston, having the opportunity to meet Admissions tutors and seeing round their facilities. It was also a good opportunity to catch up with former MPW students that had gone on to study Pharmacy and find out how they were doing with their

courses. An unexpected bonus was going into the community pharmacy in Tamworth to ask whether the pharmacist there would be happy to talk to me about her route to being in charge only to find she was the sister of a student I had previously taught!

Writing the guide has not only enabled me to advise students regarding Pharmacy and Pharmacology, but also developed my skills in researching a very wide range of degree courses and careers. Students should read the book as it provides a detailed insight into every stage of the application process, including how to get started before A levels, preparing them for a competitive environment."

GETTING INTO LAW – EMILY LUCAS

Emily Lucas is the University Support Officer for MPW Birmingham and works closely with students to prepare them for entrance to university. She also provides support for students preparing for Pre admissions tests, including the LNAT, BMAT and UKCAT.

"Writing *Getting Into Law* gave me an opportunity to delve into the field of law and talk to many people who work in this area, and it was really inspiring to hear about their individual journeys. By speaking with admissions tutors at universities across the country, I was able to

gain an insight into selection process and identify the most important elements of the application process for each institution. It was really useful to see how different A level subjects were valued so that key elements can be extricated for the purpose of the personal statement, and to establish the importance of work experience.

The book provides a useful overview of what a career in law entails, the different routes to qualification and how to produce a successful application, so it is worth a read for anyone who is interested!"

MEETING ROBOTS IN THE BRAIN CENTRE!

ASTON UNIVERSITY

As part of our University Support Programme, our Year 12 students visited Aston University to gain an insight into what it would be like to study at a campus-based university. They kindly organised a careers day which started with an enormously entertaining and thought-provoking talk on the legal profession from Odette Hutchinson, who was recently awarded UK Law Teacher of the Year, and Kris Lines, who is the LLB Law programme director. This challenged our aspiring lawyers to think about court cases and ethical situations in a new light. They discussed what consent really meant and how giving consent could be misconstrued.





They then had a lecture from Dr Gareth Thomson, a reader in Mechanical Engineering and Design. Whilst outlining the structure of the course, Dr Thomson demonstrated the different projects that students undertake throughout their degree, which involved designing a race car and building it, before participating in the student race; designing a wind turbine; and producing a medical device. One group of students who presented their ideas won £25,000 for a STEM award for designing a bra for pregnant women which reduced backache, as this costs the NHS millions of pounds each year! It was a truly immersive experience for prospective engineers and demonstrated the wide ranging applications of the field.

After these talks, the group broke off into different groups to experience different departments. Those inspired by Dr Thomson's talk went off to the Department of Mechanical Engineering to see the race cars produced by first year students and develop an understanding of the engineering knowledge that was used to do so. They also had the chance to input their own ideas and even test out the race cars!

Another group of students visited Computer Science Department for a robot demonstration, led by Dr Diego Resende-Faria. Aston University's robot Pepper impressed students with his dancing capabilities as he perfectly executed the Macarena. They also witnessed the impressive applications of robots as one was programmed to detect unconscious people and call an ambulance if they remained non-responsive.

A final group of students visited Aston's world-renowned Brain Centre, where they met with Professor Paul Furlong, who works in clinical neuroimaging and is Director of the department. Professor Furlong explained the different types of brain scanning machines, and some students even had the opportunity to have a brain scan using magnetoencephalography! Students interested in healthcare sciences and neuroscience found this activity especially useful, and they were also able to explore the different career paths.

Each year, the college engages in a number of charity projects that aim to support the local community as well as wider causes. This year has been no exception with MPW staff and students finding imaginative and creative ways to raise money.

FUNDRAISING

MOVEMBER

To raise money for terminal cancer patients at Myton Hospice in Warwick some of the members of staff took part in Movember. Movember is a national charity project in that aims to raise awareness of testicular cancer. For more information on Movember visit <https://uk.movember.com/?home>



SAVE THE RHINO

Fitness fanatic and animal lover Martin Blyth ran this year's London Marathon to raise money for 'Save the Rhino'. At 24.1C, the race was the hottest on record. Martin, who is the college's Director of Teaching and Learning took part in a number of different races over the year all in preparation for the 26.2 mile race in London. Martin's efforts enabled him to raise £1,880.



PYJAMA DAY

A recent survey by Shelter states that more than 12,000 people in Birmingham are without a home. That means that 1 in 88 people in the city are homeless. Nationally, the total number of homeless has risen to 307,000 people. The topic arose at a Student Council meeting where it was agreed that a Pyjama Day would be held to raise money for the homeless. Students dressed in their pyjamas and onesies for the day, whilst tutors dug deep into their pockets to support the cause.





"I MUST BE CRUEL ONLY TO BE KIND"

THEATRE VISIT: HAMLET

Hamlet is one of Shakespeare's most popular plays. The audience are privy to the enigmatic protagonist's conflicted soliloquies; Hamlet's conscience is torn - should he honour his father's wishes and take revenge for his 'most foul murder' or listen to his own moral code? Perhaps Hamlet is such an intriguing character because individuals can relate to at least one of the sides he presents: philosophical, sensitive, witty, vengeful are just a few selves which emerge.

We therefore couldn't miss the opportunity of seeing a screening of Shakespeare's revenge tragedy. Benedict Cumberbatch performed in the starring role - his energy and pain reached out to the audience, particularly when he dressed like a toy soldier. It served to reiterate how he felt like he was constantly playing games. Year 13 and 14 agreed that Sian Brooke's performance of Ophelia was a little too fragile from the beginning. It subsequently appeared inevitable that she should descend into madness. However, if a performance encourages discussion, that can only be a positive (particularly when the exam requires students to discuss interpretations of the play). Being close to theatres and cinemas in Birmingham encourages people to see a drama come to life - it may seem cliché, but at least I avoided the obvious 'To be or not to be' line...

REVISION TECHNIQUES

Effective preparation and extensive revision is the secret to success in GCSE and A level examinations. Although most students are aware of the fundamental need to revise, students often don't know the most effective way to revise and rely on methods which are ineffective.

Ensuring revision success starts right at the beginning of the academic year and students should aim to have a well organized and comprehensive set of class notes. Students who perform well during the final examinations are unsurprisingly those who have made the regular investment of time throughout the course of the year to keep their notes at the appropriate standard. If a student simply stuffs their notes into their bag at the end of each lesson and fails to file them away appropriately in a folder then they will need to waste precious amounts of the crucial revision period putting these notes in to some sort of logical order. Students should cross reference their notes with the year plan and specification to ensure that they have not missed any key information due to an absence or have misplaced any vital information.

There is no one size fits all approach that works with revision. Each student will need to embark upon a journey to work out how they learn best. Some students will be superior at retaining information when they verbally recall information by using cue cards or by completing presentations to peers whereas others may prefer more visual methods such as mind mapping. Cue cards are one of the most misused revision techniques, many students simply rewrite their notes in smaller handwriting on a postcard, but there is no evidence to suggest this is effective whatsoever and it is simply a waste of time. Cue cards should be used as mini

tests with a question or key word on one side and the answer on the other. Students should work through their pile of cue cards and test themselves on the content, sorting the cue cards in to piles according to whether they had confidently remembered the content or not. Students should then re-work through the set of cue cards they are not confident with until all of the cards have transitioned in to a pile they feel comfortable with.

When a student has worked out their favored revision strategy they should create a revision timetable and stick to it. At MPW we regularly encourage students to embrace the school week like a full time job, using free periods effectively to complete revision for timed assignments. Students should break their revision in to manageable chunks to avoid burn out, and there should be no real reason for students to be revising late at night and evenings are better used to get the rest required for higher productivity levels in lessons the next day.

Lots of students and parents alike will realise the importance of outstanding examination technique, but one pit fall that students regularly fall in to is doing past papers before mastering an understanding of the content. If students begin to complete past papers too early then they may only be setting themselves up to fail. In the first term of the academic year, students should use timed assignments as the opportunity to test their knowledge and should use their free time to master content. The time for past papers is in the Spring term, after January mock exams.

All of the Personal Tutor team at MPW are willing to help each student create a personalized revision plan to ensure that each individual's academic aspirations can become a reality.



CIFE FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT:

ST GEORGE'S PARK

'THE EVENT WAS PLAYED
IN GREAT SPIRITS AND
THE STANDARD THIS
YEAR WAS EXCELLENT.'







MPW once again hosted the annual CIFE football tournament at St George's Park, which is the home of English football. The tournament was once again a big success with teams travelling from all around the UK to participate.

The event was played in great spirits and the standard this year was excellent. MPW Birmingham performed particularly well, finishing runners up to the eventual winners, Brookhouse College. During the group stage of the competition, MPW lost only one game and only conceded goals to the eventual winners Brookhouse.

There were some strong performances and excellent results, including beating MPW London 2-0. The key goal scorers for MPW were Jonty Schofield and Connor Gregory who both scored 3 goals each during the tournament. The strong defensive performances from Amar Rai, Theiran Patel, Hamza Khan and dominant goal keeping from DK also meant MPW conceded very few goals.

After qualifying from the group in 2nd place MPW beat Collingham College 1-0 in the semi-final with an excellent team goal which was finished with great skill by Jonty. Unfortunately, despite a spirited performance from MPW in the final, Brookhouse College deservedly won the tournament.

We look forward to next year and hope to improve on this performance by winning the competition.



PSHE:

CHARACTER BUILDING

The PSHE programme at MPW Birmingham is designed to support students navigate through issues presented to them in everyday life. As the world develops, so do the temptations presented to the youth of today. Presentations delivered by the Personal Tutor team and guest speakers aim to provide students with a moral compass when dealing with themes such as online safety, mental health and British Values.



ONLINE SAFETY

Through PSHE we equip students with knowledge on how to respond to online safety issues, report any concerns and make positive choices. Topics covered include Cyberbullying, Sexting, Peer pressure and Self-esteem. Young people are the experts of social media and by provoking debate within PSHE sessions we are able to learn from their own experiences of communicating online and allow it to shape how we deal with such issues as a college.

For further advice and information on managing young people online, visit 'The Family Online Safety Institute' - www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting

BRITISH VALUES

Encouraging students to think beyond the British stereotypes that exist and instead explore the fundamental values that are designed to allow us to exist in a respectful and peaceful society are key themes throughout the British Values sessions. Students explore the themes of democracy, rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance as key areas. As a college, MPW strongly believes that every student should feel confident about who they are and not be afraid to express their thoughts and feelings as long as they are not extreme or do not offend others.



MENTAL HEALTH

Unfortunately, there are still some ill informed and damaging attitudes around the topic of mental health that can make it difficult for some young people to seek help. It is estimated that only around a quarter of people with mental health problems in the UK receive ongoing support or help. Through PSHE at MPW we are challenging these attitudes and encouraging students to have a greater awareness of their mental health and those around them. Working in partnership with local counselling service Open Door, we encourage our young people to reach out for support when they need it.



In acknowledgement of World Mental Health Day, Hypnotherapist Rachel Broomfield visited the college to introduce students to Mindfulness and how it can be used to reduce levels of anxiety. Mindfulness encourages us to pay more attention to the present moment, focusing on our own thoughts and feelings to enhance our mental wellbeing. Mindfulness can help us enjoy life more and understand ourselves better.

For more information on Mindfulness visit www.nhs.uk/conditions/stress-anxiety-depression/mindfulness/

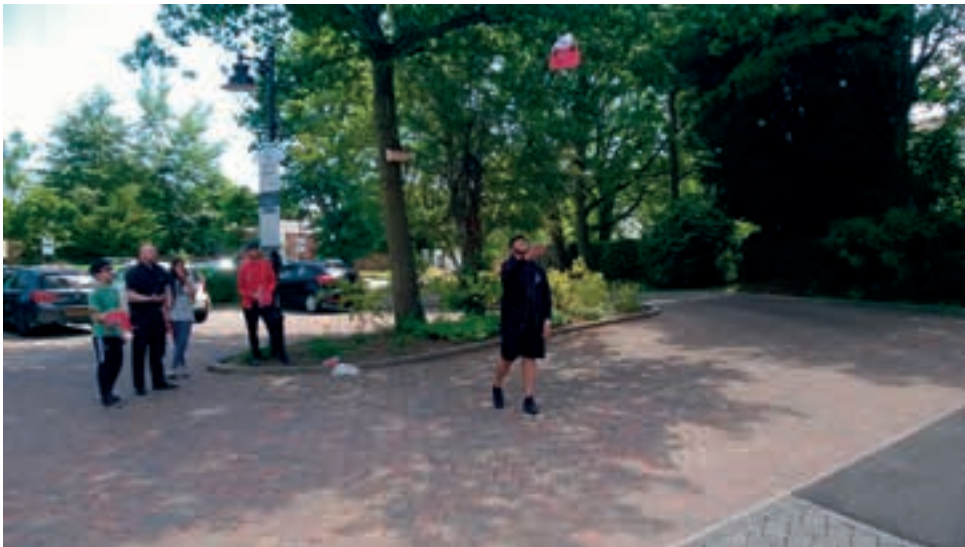


STEM EGG EXPERIMENT

At the end of the academic year, the Year 10 Physics students were able to put the theory they had learnt into practice by carrying out a STEM challenge. STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths. The applied and interactive nature of learning in this way allows students to develop and cement the GCSE knowledge they are taught in class. The Year 10 task involved the group designing a system that would allow an egg to land intact after being thrown into the air. Some of the designs created were extremely inventive and when it came to testing them out, there were a fair few omelette's appearing in the MPW car park! Congratulations to Ali for successfully launching an egg that landed completely intact.



‘SOME OF THE DESIGNS CREATED WERE EXTREMELY INVENTIVE AND WHEN IT CAME TO TESTING THEM OUT, THERE WERE A FAIR FEW OMELETTE’S APPEARING IN THE’ MPW CAR PARK!’



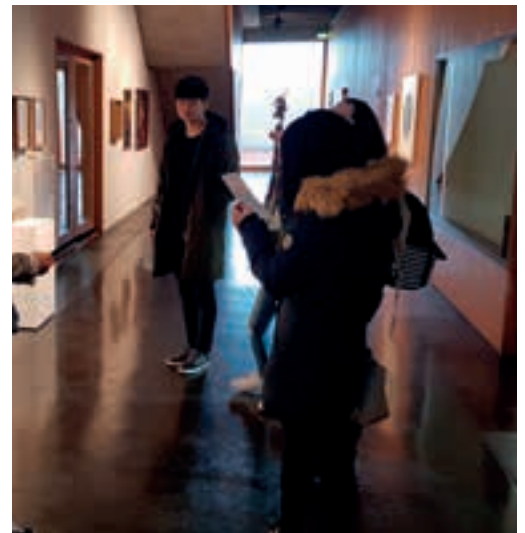
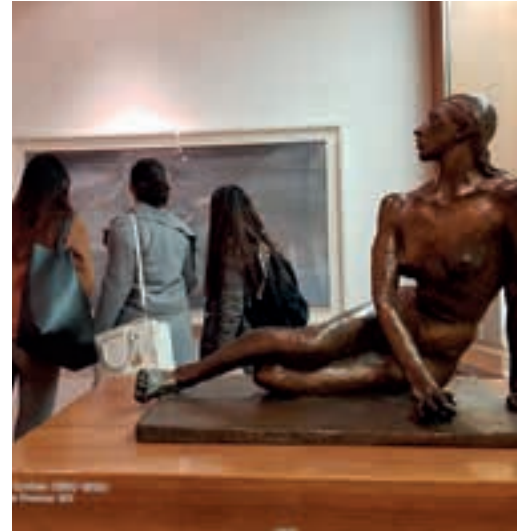
NEW ART GALLERY WALSALL

Prior to the launch of their final examinations, students were on the hunt for inspiration in the form of traditional and contemporary artists at the New Art Gallery Walsall. The gallery is a hidden treasure of the Midlands art scene often overlooked because of the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery and the IKON Gallery. It hosts works by masters such as Constable, Degas, Matisse, Monet, Picasso and Van Gogh. In addition to the dazzling works created by these masters of fine art, the gallery also boasts modern pieces by the likes of Jacob Epstein, Lucien Freud, Theo Garman and Matthew Smith.

There is a humble atmosphere throughout the gallery, which allowed our students to ask questions and freely explore the pieces of work on show. Art can often feel elitist but the New Art Gallery Walsall enabled students to challenge and unpack the conceptual ideas of the works in a comfortable, working environment.

Of the work on show, perhaps the most stunning piece on display was Joseph Turner's oil painting 'Fisherman at Sea' which was painted in 1796. Turner was a master of landscape and marine painting. His work challenged conventions in art, shocking his contemporaries with his techniques and portrayal of the modern world. The painting formed the central part of an exhibition titled 'Legacies' which showcased landscape works that had been inspired by the work of Turner.

Once our students had extracted the required inspiration from the gallery walls, the group stopped off to enjoy some German cuisine at the Frankfurt Christmas Market in central Birmingham.







EMMA BRIDGEWATER

Year 13 and NCUK Business students had the opportunity to visit the world famous Emma Bridgewater factory in Stoke on Trent to further their knowledge of manufacturing and production processes. Founded in 1985, the British ceramics manufacturer is famous for their polka dot design amongst others. The company is one of the largest pottery manufacturers based entirely in the UK. The working factory based in Stoke-on-Trent is accessible for visitors and tourists throughout the year.

MPW students were able to learn about the incredibly specialist tasks that need to be completed during the manufacturing process and were able to gain a forensic understanding of operations management within the business. The session was concluded with the opportunity for students to design and manufacture their own plate with some beautiful designs being created in true Emma Bridgewater fashion.

The students did an incredible job and after they were processed in the furnace, the finished plates arrived at college a couple of weeks later for students to take home to show off to their family and friends.



MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID:

MAINTAINING GOOD MENTAL HEALTH AND REDUCING STRESS

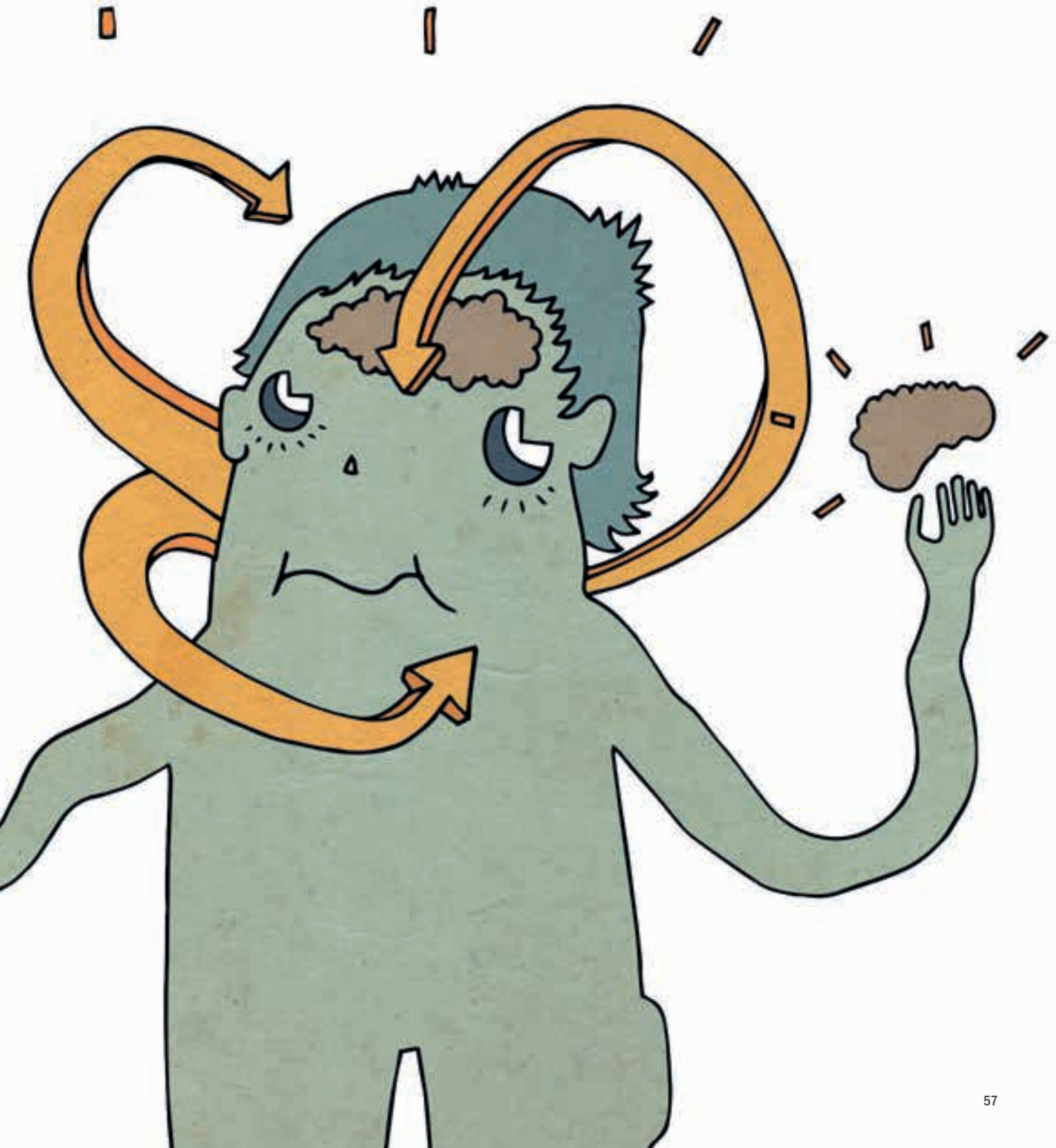
During our day-to-day lives we experience a number of stressors, most are small and manageable but others can be more significant or prolonged over time. It is therefore essential we have coping mechanisms in place that help to release this stress in a positive way and avoid the development of poor mental health.

One way to put this in perspective is the stress container analogy. Each person has a unique vulnerability to stress, meaning we each have a limit to the amount of stress we can cope with and this dictates the size of your container. The smaller the container the lower an individual's ability to cope.

**'ANOTHER GOOD WAY
TO DEAL WITH STRESS
IS BY COMMUNICATING
WITH SOMEONE.'**

Attached to the container is a tap, which represents our strategies for dealing with stress, if your strategies are unhealthy such as drinking excess alcohol then this will do little to lower stress levels within your container and could lead to more stress. Following this, you then return to your normal day-to-day life and instead of having an emptier container, you are topping it up further until it eventually overflows and you snap or lash out. Over time, this will lead to poor mental health and possibly the development of a diagnosable mental health disorder like depression or anxiety disorders.

It is therefore essential we deal with our stress in a positive way for example, eating healthily and doing exercise proven to lower stress and release feel good chemicals within the body. Another good way to deal with stress is by communicating it with someone, this could be a family member, friends or even a counsellor and they may have some helpful advice to support you. In addition meditation through the Calm and Head Space apps can also help to create strong ways of coping with stress after a hard day and even when experiencing a stressful situation.



MEDICAL CAREERS DAY:

KEELE UNIVERSITY

As an incredibly rewarding career that allows you to make a real difference to people's lives, medicine is a field that many students are enthusiastic about pursuing. However, the long hours, high-pressured working environment and the overwhelming responsibility are often overlooked. Our aspiring Year 12 Medics attended Keele University's 'So You Want To Be A Doctor?' event, which put them through their paces and made them really think about whether they would make the cut.



**'WE WISH OUR ASPIRING
MEDICS THE BEST
OF LUCK WITH THEIR
APPLICATIONS!'**



The day began with informative talks about how to choose and apply for medical school, what to expect when you get there, and possible pathways within a medical career. Students were given insightful advice on what to look out for when considering which medical schools they should apply to, how to approach entrance exams such as the BMAT and UKCAT and how to make the most of their work experience opportunities.

They were also given the opportunity to ask questions of existing admissions tutors and practising clinicians, as well as take part in interactive laboratory sessions. The latter allowed students to test urine samples as a diagnostic for diabetes, assessing peak flow to determine lung function, investigating the spread of sexually transmitted diseases and exploring the physiology of the heart, lungs and kidneys. This insight into the more practical aspects of medicine was incredibly useful for students, and gave them a glimpse into what it would be like to work with real patients.

We wish our aspiring medics the best of luck with their applications!



Every Tuesday all students are invited to take part in the college enrichment program, which includes a number of activities including debating, photography and a variety of sports.

Each year a tournament, The Winter Olympics, is held in which students and staff compete against other in different events. This year Max Sharma retained his table tennis title. In a repeat of last years final, Max narrowly defeated maths tutor Nigel. In the basketball free throws, Year 10 student Lwai defeated all competition to take home the medal. In basketball doubles, Ray and Sean narrowly defeated Bryant and Eric. In badminton, Abdur Hameed defeated the skilled and experience modern languages tutor Charlie in a tense final. Outside on the football pitch, Hamza and Ishvar won the doubles event. In the penalty shoot-out event there was another Year 10 victory, with Ali taking home the gold. Each year the tournament is played in good spirits with many students turning up to watch the event.

WINTER OLYMPICS





A TRIP TO BRISTOL ZOO





In order to both expand their knowledge of global conservation issues and explore fundamental locational drawing skills, Year 12 Biology and Year 12 Art and Design students joined forces and visited Bristol Zoological Gardens. With over 450 species of animals, cared for in an extraordinary garden setting, Bristol Zoo has won awards for their educational and charitable contributions. Whilst the Biology students were learning about how species adapt to their environment in order to ensure their survival, Art students were discovering the perfect technique for capturing the movement of animals using a range of media and techniques. The session took place in a classroom-based environment, but with a slight change of company. Instead of their usual peers and tutors, students were joined by golden mantella frogs and Gambian pouched rats, allowing them to engage in a dynamic and unique way. As some of the Biology students were coming face to face with amethystine pythons and corn snakes, the Art students were off exploring the zoological gardens and attempting to use loose media, such as charcoal, soft pastel and graphite sticks to document the slow and dense movements of a family of gorillas. The Biology students soon met up with the Art students and both groups immediately became obsessed with the cuddly toys for sale in the gift shop. Staff were equally as fascinated with the zoo memorabilia and joined students in some crucial decision making: a five-foot cuddly stuffed giraffe or a wooden animal themed jigsaw set?

BREAD OF THE DEAD

Who would have thought that blending death and bread would be fascinating and also tasty? Those would be the best words to describe The Bread of the Dead – Pan de los Muertos in Spanish. They are sweet bread rolls shaped into skulls and bones and eaten during the celebrations of the Day of the Dead in Mexico. Here at MPW Birmingham the staff and the AS students have made these traditional bread rolls as part of their learning about traditions and celebrations of the Spanish speaking countries.

The Day of the Dead is one of many celebrations in the Spanish speaking world that combine pre-hispanic heritage and Spanish culture. These festivities are very popular and offer colour and diversity, blending religion, culture and gastronomy, such as The Festival of the Sun (Inti Raymi) in Peru, Dance of the Devils (Diabladas) in Bolivia, Easter (Semana Santa) in Guatemala, Flower Fair in Colombia and so on. The students have learned about these festivals and have reflected upon the magnitude of these celebrations nowadays.

The recipe to make this bread is simple; mix all the ingredients together - yeast, warm milk, flour, orange zest, butter, eggs and salt. However, making the bread is not easy. The dough is tricky and probably the trickiness of getting a perfect dough is the only 'deathly' feature of this delicious bread. The AS Spanish students have enjoyed making the bread, but this would not have been possible without a helping hand from the staff and Natalie, the college cook, who baked the bread. The joint effort of the college and the delight of tasting the bread, to some extent displays the spirit and values of these traditional Spanish celebrations; the students at MPW Birmingham have certainly had a little taste of this delightful experience.





MPW SPORTS AWARDS

Each year, the college football team meets to celebrate the end of the football season by enjoying a meal together whilst discussing the memorable moments that took place throughout the season. Highlights this year included a 3-2 victory over MPW Cambridge, and finishing runners-up at the CIFE Football Tournament at St Georges Park. The victory over Cambridge felt as sweet as ever. As usual, the game was extremely tight, with neither team giving too much away in the key midfield area with the match becoming more and more competitive as it progressed. Star performances from Joe and Conor ensured MPW Birmingham ran out winners. The home victory was followed by an away defeat in Cambridge in another tight contest in which Cambridge ran out 2-1 winner. This turned out to be the only defeat of the season, with the team collecting eight victories overall. With many of the current team heading off to university this year, we are looking forward to introducing a number of new players to the team for the new season.

MPW BIRMINGHAM AWARD WINNERS

- **MANAGER'S AWARD – CONOR GREGORY**
- **TOP GOAL SCORER – CONOR GREGORY**
- **PLAYER'S PLAYER OF THE SEASON – CHIMNUNAM PRECIOUS DIKE-OMEME**
- **FAIR PLAY AWARD – JOE LAMB**
- **OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AWARD – AMAR RAI**

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