

MEDIA

SMA TV NEWS

SMA Media Centre has worked with a number of students to produce an interesting and exciting Academy-wide SMA NEWS bi-weekly programme.

Students attend at lunchtime, after school and in their tutor times in order to produce an interesting exciting diet of current academic information, which is screened every week at Tutor time.

www.youtube.com/user/StMatthewAcademy2

WEEK 5 24/11/2016 - Live from the Media Centre, produced, directed and presented by the SMA production company. The first edition of the highly anticipated weekly SMA NEWS bulletin.

Stories this week include: Remembrance day, Urban Synergy 'Top Tips to the Top', Capoeira dance workshop, Y9 Business 'Coke' trip, Young Careers, Year 4 Primary inventions, Year 6 Primary bread making and Primary Head boy and Head girl introduction.

WEEK 4 10/11/2016 - Stories this week include: Shakespearean schools' Festival, Black History Month celebration, Debate Mate at The Houses of Parliament, Rugby Kent South

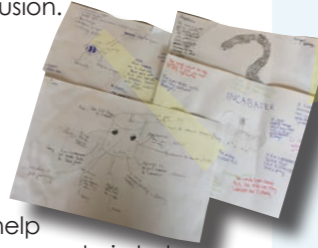
London Year 8 tournament winners, Business 'Apprentice' talk, Primary Harvest Festival, Year 5 and 6 St Georges Cathedral trip and Remembrance Sunday video.



SCIENCE NEWS

A mystery student in Year 10 has been working on an amazing independent project on a new energy source based on an arc reactor and nuclear fusion. Great to see science taken to the next level out of the classroom!

Mrs Kumar's Year 7 science class have been working on adaptations. Students were asked to design a creature with adaptations that would help it live in the school environment, e.g. down a drain hole. Students' ideas were very creative and showed great imagination when thinking about the adaptations that the animals would need!



Mr Bradley

REWARDS

This term we launched a new Rewards Policy to help us to celebrate the achievements of our students. The philosophy behind the policy is that rewarding students for excellence in effort, attainment, behaviour and conduct is an important part of the development of the whole child through encouragement and praise. Rewards are a key component of good teaching and good staff/student relationships.

We also believe that exceptional behaviour for learning is also best promoted and developed through a rewards system which recognises the potential in all students.

We believe that rewards should be used appropriately, and must be linked to evidence of a student striving to do his or her best in all aspects of Academy life. The St Matthew Academy Rewards Policy operates within these guiding principles.

ST MATTHEW ACADEMY CORE VALUES.

The new reward system centres on the awarding of rewards points linked to our data system. These points are awarded to students who strive to adhere to the following 'core values:'

- Academic: achieving academic potential
- Effort: always demonstrating determination to succeed
- Behaviour: always displaying the highest courtesy and consideration for others
- Participation: always joining in with curricular and extra-curricular activities

For example, rewards points could be awarded for:

- Excellent achievement with classwork or homework (Academic)
- Striving to do their best (Effort)
- Helping another student (Behaviour)
- Making a positive contribution in class (Participation)

It is fundamental to students feeling valued and inspired at St Matthew Academy, that all their achievements are recognised and when appropriate, rewarded. When we recognise achievement, hard work, excellent behaviour and participation, our students respond positively and are inspired to reach higher in all they do.

We look forward to continuing to celebrate success with students and parents in the new year.

Mr Gunningham



MEET OUR SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



SEAN OCTOBER
Deputy Head
Secondary Pastoral



ANITA HYNES
Deputy Head
Secondary Data



HELENE LeROUX
Deputy Head
Secondary Curriculum



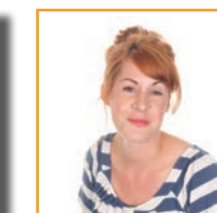
CARVEY FRANCIS
Deputy Head
Secondary Quality
of Teaching



LAURA BECKLEY
Deputy Head
Primary



KATHRYN MEJIA
Assistant Head
Primary Quality
of Teaching



JOANNA CHICK
Assistant Head
Secondary Inclusion



**MESSAGE FROM
THE HEAD OF SCHOOL -
MS BALDWIN**

We are coming to the end of a busy and successful term at the academy and I hope that you will enjoy reading about the many activities and events that have taken place since we started the school year in September. Pupils and staff have been involved in a wide range of charity, sporting, cultural, academic, musical and theatrical occasions both at the academy, within our local community and beyond. Whenever our pupils have had the opportunity to represent their school they have done this with pride and commitment resulting in us always receiving really positive feedback from all those adults that have worked with our young people. They have always truly 'let their light shine'.

Year 7 students have made a successful transition to secondary school and have already made a substantial contribution to many areas of school life. Our reception students began their first year in school with a staggered start which enabled them all to make positive first steps on their academy journey through to KS1, KS2 and beyond.

Our year 11s have been focussed on preparing for their GCSE's, they know that they have a lot of hard work in front of them if they are going to exceed the good results of the 2016 year 11 cohort and by the time you are reading this newsletter they will have sat their mock examinations.

Our talented and hard-working staff have also had a really busy and successful term. We have made a number of significant changes to our practice and this has meant that staff have had to go 'above and beyond' on a number of occasions to ensure that our pupils are always being challenged to improve on their present best. We have benefited from working closely with our partner schools- Sacred Heart and St Thomas the Apostle College- and staff have enjoyed being able to share good practice and plan with these colleagues on a regular basis.

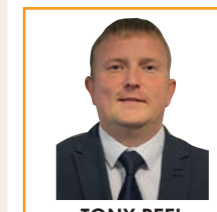
Finally, thank you, parents and carers, for the support you give to your sons and daughters and to the school.



IAN GUNNINGHAM
Assistant Head
Secondary Enrichment
& Engagement



SIMBI WICKLIFFE
Assistant Head
Secondary
KS3 Pastoral



TONY PEEL
Assistant Head
Secondary
KS4 Pastoral



RICHARD DEARING
Academy Business
Manager

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our school community a very happy Christmas as we look forward together to the opportunities 2017 will bring. May the joy and peace of Christmas be with you always.

Miranda Baldwin
Head of School



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t: 020 8853 6250 or e: info@stmatthewacademy.co.uk

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

On the 31st October 2016 students from year 8,9,10 and 11 performed Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at the Greenwich theatre. It was part of the Shakespeare Schools Festival which allows students from around the country the chance to perform an abridged Shakespeare play in a professional theatre.

The project was a cross-curricular Arts project with the Drama, Dance and Art department working together. The play was directed by Mr. White. Mrs Smith choreographed the movement sections that introduced the fairies in the play. The dances fused Contemporary Dance with classic 1920s movements in a high energy and exciting piece. AJ and Abigail performed a magical contemporary dance using props and some highly technical movement.

In the Art Department Ms. Cregan, along with Ms Chen, helped produce some wonderful costume in the form of fascinators the cast wore in performance. They were designed and made by the year 9 textiles group.

The evening performance was outstanding. It was noted that the different worlds of the play were very effectively communicated to the audience. Parents and friends really enjoyed the show and without being biased, it was the best on the night! Holly Kawuma of year 11 said 'it's been a great project to be involved with. It was great to be able to work with students from across the school and not just in my year group. I felt, as a year 11, I could help the younger students but they helped me just as much!' Amira Rabiou, in year 8 said 'it's been the best thing I have done at school.

I was able to work with other students, feel like I was a valued part of the group and I even enjoyed rehearsing and performing Shakespeare! I will definitely be picking GCSE Drama next year.'

There were many stand out performances and it's hard to single out any individual. However Mariam Wallace and Shade Sawyer were both outstanding on the night, and throughout the process. As year 9 GCSE drama students their performance work was already at a very high level that would have seen them gain high grades at GCSE, and they still have over 2 years before they do their exams. AMAZING! We cannot wait for next year!

Mr. White



DEBATE MATE

Debate Mate Class of 2016 started off this year's debating in style, with a trip to Westminster in November for the launch, attended by this year's members made of students from Year 7.

Sign up for the extra-curricular club, every Wednesday 3.00-4.00pm, has been brilliant so far; exceeding last year's numbers with 35 students enrolled. So much so that when the training began, led by two mentors from Kings College and L.S.E, we had to expand to two classrooms!

As you may remember, last year's SMA Debate team, including our head boy and prefects, won the final of the Debate Mate Cup Regionals hosted at Westminster University beating and competing over 250 schools.

With our new and enthusiastic Year 7 additions we can only go from strength to strength. Good luck and congratulations for such a promising first term!

Ms Purslow



CAREERS AND EMPLOYABILITY

TODAY'S CHILDREN, TOMORROW'S LAWYERS (TCTL)

Twenty of our Year 10 students participated in the TCTL 2016/17 programme. Eight students were identified as Bright Stars and invited to attend a special Recognition Evening held at Barclays in Canary Wharf on the 13th October to celebrate their achievements. Over the coming year, TCTL will prioritise them for work experience placements and invite them to events they believe beneficial in pursuing a career in Law.

SEO SCHOLARS LONDON

Twenty of our Year 11's have been successful in their application onto the SEO Scholars programme. Parents and students attended the induction day in the October half term. SEO Scholars is a charity that works with highly academic students from underprivileged backgrounds providing work experience opportunities and support through Year 11, College and University. This

support is to ensure more students from these backgrounds excel at school, secure places at elite universities and ultimately in the industries they are under represented in. Students on this fully funded programme have access to taster days at the Russell Group Universities and Oxbridge summer schools. Students also have the opportunity to gain work experience at some prestigious companies including corporate law firms and service companies such as Herbert Smith Freehills, Slaughter and May, Linklaters, Deloitte, EY and PwC.

YEAR 11 INFORMATION EVENING

In October, fifteen colleges/sixth forms attended the Year 11 Information Evening. Parents/Carers and students were able to speak to the different providers and pick up prospectuses and Open Day information. Christ the King, St Thomas the Apostle, Shooters Hill and Woolwich Polytechnic have also come along to Year 11 assemblies to share the range of courses they have to offer.

YEAR 9 KPMG PROFESSIONAL MENTORING PROGRAMME

Forty four Year 9 students are now part of the KPMG professional mentoring programme. The launch of the programme took place on 30th September with students and mentors taking part in a series of ice-breakers and fact finding activities. Students officially met their allocated mentors on the 21st October and attended their second mentoring session at KPMG HQ in Canary Wharf on the 25th November. KPMG is one of the largest professional services company in the world and one of the Big Four auditors, along with Deloitte, EY and PwC.



YEAR 10 KPMG EMPLOYABILITY MORNING

Forty Year 10 students took part in our KPMG Employability Morning. Students worked in groups of four with their mentors looking at CV writing, key employability skills, interview techniques and career pathways. All students took part in one to one mock interviews with their mentors and gained valuable feedback on their performance.

TOP TIPS TO THE TOP ROLE MODEL SEMINAR



Our Top Tips to the Top Role Model Seminar hosted by Urban Synergy took place on the 17th of October. 84 students from Years 9, 10 & 11 attended the evening event. Chantal Coody - Creative Director of Rococo chocolates; Gary Wade - Building Surveyor at Capital Property & Construction; Taylor Dior Rumble - Journalist Apprentice at the BBC; Dr Andreia Cavalho - Head of Scientific Affairs at King's College and Shaquille Robinson - Assistant Producer at BBC1 Radio 1/1Xtra took to the stage

and shared their career journey's and imparted words of wisdom to all those in the main hall. Students then took part in a speed mentoring session with 38 mentors taking part. Amongst the role models were two ex St Matthew Academy students, Christopher Shine and Taylor Dior Rumble who came back to inspire those following in their footsteps.

Paula Maquieira

PRIMARY NEWS

CONCERN IN ACTION

At SMA primary we focus on the whole child. This term, during the final months of the Year of Mercy, there was a special focus on 'giving' especially to our local and wider community. It is the message 'love for thy neighbour' that inspires our young children to be better people.

Our Macmillan Coffee morning was one of those GREAT successes raising over **£600**.



During the season of Advent, through our Christmas Fayre; prize draw and Christmas Jumper Day we hope to have raised over **£300** for our local charity 'Age Exchange'.



HARVEST DAY CELEBRATIONS

Our Harvest Day celebrations at the end of October were fabulous and the demonstration of generosity through food donations of produce for Lewisham Food Bank have been just breath taking! KS2 began the special day with Mass at St Margaret's church. All of our children made contributions of tinned food to donate to the local food bank. We collected over 2,000 items of food which were then delivered by school minibus to the Lewisham Food Bank. It's great that our children care so much about other people, particularly at this time of year and are supported by their wonderful parents.

We were delighted to have Carol from Lewisham Food Bank visit SMA to meet our delightful children. Carol shared her thanks for our generosity during Harvest Festival.

Niall McCann
Head of SMA Primary



CHECK OUT FACEBOOK:
St Matthew Academy
Blackheath London
TWITTER:
@StMattAcad



YEAR OF MERCY



The Holy Year of Mercy began on 8 December 2015. The Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy is an invitation to all Christians and indeed all religions to draw closer to each other. We are called in many ways throughout this Holy Year to experience God's Mercy, through the undertaking of pilgrimages, walking through Holy Doors, and undertaking physical and spiritual acts of mercy.



We have been celebrating the Year of Mercy in many special ways, through song, prayer, reflection and showing love and kindness to each other. This term KS2 visited St George's Cathedral in Southwark to see the Year of Mercy door and celebrate Mass together. This was an extremely special trip and thoroughly enjoyed by all as can be seen by Class 5E at the Door of Mercy.

DANCE

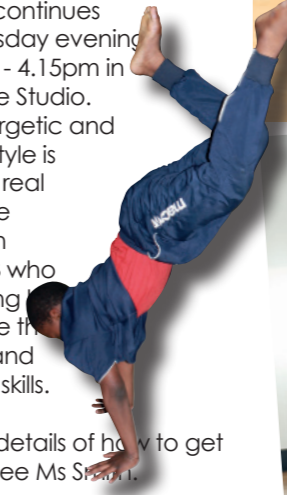
Boys in Key Stage 3 enjoyed the opportunity to work alongside two dynamic Capoeira artists from the Royal Academy of Dance. Students were put through their paces in a two hour-long intensive workshop where they were guided through a series of exhausting but fun technical and improvised challenges. Both teachers were very impressed by the warm welcome and enthusiastic response that they received.

Following last year's successful performances at Trinity Laban and more recently in Midsummer Nights Dream, some of the Year 10 performers travelled into the West End to see Stomp. This highly acclaimed dynamic performance blends rhythm, dance and theatre in an inspiring display of talent.

On the 1st December, the Year 9 dance group will be working alongside Greenvale Special School in an integrated workshop with the Royal Academy of Dance.

'Step Together' workshop was a fun and exciting way to bring together young people Dance Fusion with Zoe Elliot continues every Tuesday evening from 3pm - 4.15pm in the Dance Studio. Zoe's energetic and creative style is proving a real hit with the students in Year 7 & 8 who are working to improve their creative and technical skills.

For more details of how to get involved see Ms Smith.



INTERNATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

In October, the school celebrated International day with a carnival of colour and cultural excitement.

Our wonderful children experienced a plethora of activities from around the world such as a special menu of wonderful tastes, mask making, African theatre, to learning Polish and Chinese and a concluding exhibition of Irish dancing from our Year 6 children. We are blessed with our wonderfully committed staff at SMA who made this day such a memorable occasion for all.



PEN LICENCES

All children this term from Year 2-6 have been encouraged to challenge themselves to receive a Pen Licence. A Licence is awarded to children who are not only demonstrating depth in writing in their IPC class work, but to those who produce beautifully presented handwriting. Children are so keen to impress their teacher with their neat presentation and handwriting skills. Well done to our Year 6 Pen Licence champions below!



BUSINESS STUDIES

LAUNCH OF NEW IFS COURSE

A new course has begun with Year 9 and Year 10 called 'The Level 2 Certificate in Financial Education (CeFE)'. The course is a mixture of Finance, Business, Economics, citizenship and Politics. It is delivered on the ipads and is proving to be a challenging but enjoyable option for our pupils

VISIT TO THE COCA-COLA FACTORY

Our Year 9 Business GCSE students visited the Coke factory in Sidcup, which

houses the fastest canning line in the world. We attended a seminar looking at how the world's most famous brand was established and looked at their production techniques. We ended our time with a tour around the factory looking at the bottling and canning of different products and received a complimentary bottle of Smart Water and Coke pens.

APPRENTICE CANDIDATE VISIT BY SAMUEL BOATENG

Year 9/10 Business were treated to a visit from Samuel. He spoke at length about his journey from childhood to the entrepreneur he is today.

Samuel also spoke about his time as an Apprentice and welcomed many questions about this unique experience.

Pupils asked challenging questions and our visitor was very impressed by their business minds. He ran a workshop which concluded with students pitching their business ideas in a competition. The winning group have been invited to an evening launch of this business platform to pitch to entrepreneurs that will be attending.

Ms Green
Business Studies

CHAPLAINCY

Advent has been celebrated at St Matthew Academy with a service for each year group and weekly reflection on the Advent themes of hope, peace, joy and love. We wish everyone a hopeful, peaceful, joyful and loving Christmas and thank you all for your generosity and kindness in contributing to the Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal. Over thirty top quality presents will be given to young people in need in our local community this Christmas.

Jane Roberts
SMA Chaplain

SPORTS NEWS

It has been a fantastically busy time for the PE department with many students from all ages participating in a number of clubs and fixtures both at lunchtimes and after school.

We would like to encourage as many pupils as possible to keep attending extra-curricular activities and congratulate all students for their fantastic efforts this term – well done!

Mr Goksel
Head of PE

ROWING CLUB

The year has started with an enthusiastic mass of students coming once or twice a week to partake in their schedule of achievement. Male students from all year's partake in the clubs and girls from Year 7 and 10 and only 1 from Year 9; unfortunately there are no Year 8 or 11 girls attending!



Year 7 have taken the challenge by storm with Jethukulan well on the way with 30,000m+ already and heading for the Year 7 distance record. A large number of other Year 7s also achieved their 10,000m



The 'Star of the Week' has to go to Ayomide Akinade who in just a few weeks, has set the all-time record for SMA and is challenging the SMA No 1 spot currently held by Amadeusz Mroczka in Year 10 for the 2000m challenge.



Students are currently qualifying and banking their place for the National Indoor Championships (NJIRC) to be held in March 2017; anybody is welcome to complete for a place.



If you don't fancy the big competition get ready for late February - when you can compete for the Lewisham Borough Championship (on to the London Youth Games in Crystal Palace). Look out for the On-Water session starting in early 2017, where you can learn to row on water!! Being able to swim is NOT necessary either!!



Mr Simmons

RUGBY

Rugby at SMA is truly on the map and we have successfully set up a link with Old Colfeians Rugby Club. This has resulted in expert RFU coaches supporting Rugby in Physical Education lessons for years 7 and 8. There has also been an after school rugby club led by a specialist coach, in which over 60 year 7 and 8's have attended!

The year 8 team have played against a strong Old Colfe's school and performed remarkably well against a team with twice the experience!



NORTH KENT / SOUTH LONDON EMERGING SCHOOLS FESTIVAL – WINNERS!

Our year 8 team attended the prestigious festival held at Old Colfeians Rugby Club and we were placed into group 2 against Joan Roan, St Thomas Moore and Bexleyheath schools. We won all 3 games in this group and progressed to the final beating the winners of Group 1: Trinity Lea!

The team has further fixtures lined up against Trinity, Bonus Pastor and Harris in 2017. Jaydon Frater and Daniel Nosa in year 8 have also been offered country trials which will take place in December. We would like to congratulate the boys for being selected and wish them the best of luck at the trial.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS DEC 16-FEB 17

The PE department offers a total of 10 different lunchtime clubs throughout the week as well as the very popular after school extra-curricular programme. For lunch times, each year group is assigned a particular day of the week and students have a choice of either basketball club in the sports hall or to play football on the AstroTurf pitch. Students

are only required to bring trainers to any club they wish to attend! The after schools extra-curricular programme is now on its second rota and we have a number of different clubs running including fitness, basketball, netball, rowing and table-tennis. Make sure you bring your PE kit and trainers on the days you wish to attend!

FOOTBALL

It has been a great start to the year for all teams at the academy with every year group playing in competitive fixtures and taking part in regular weekly training sessions.

GIRLS FOOTBALL

There has been a girl's only football club which has seen more than 20+ students attend regularly after school on a Thursday. A friendly was also arranged between Year 8 and 9, which the Year 9s won 4-0. The girl's only football club will restart in the New Year with more competitive fixtures and look out for a talent ID visit from Millwall Lionesses!



BOYS FOOTBALL

YEAR 7

Following two fiercely competitive trials in September, the squad has taken shape and is a vastly improving team. 3 pupils have also successfully been chosen to represent the U12 Blackheath District team. Well done to Kwakye Osei, Lewis Green and Omarion Byfield! Results: SMA 9 - Bonus Pastor 5 SMA 2 - STAC 4 SMA 1 - Thomas Tallis 3

YEAR 8

The Year 8s have been SMA's most successful team. They have shown high levels of team cohesion, skill and technique. We have had three Year 8s picked for the U13 Blackheath District team; Tunji Obemyi, Richard Chinedu and Francis Cole. Results: SMA 6 - HAAF 4 SMA 14-1 Prendergast SMA (Yr 8) 3 - SMA (Yr 9) 3 SMA (Yr 8) 2 - SMA (Yr 9) 3



YEAR 9

The Year 9 team have made a big improvement from last year, recording two convincing wins but were unfortunate to get knocked out of the Blackheath Cup in a thrilling 11 goal encounter. Washington Omenyi has been the standout performer, after being chosen to represent Blackheath district and London County at U14 Level, which is a phenomenal achievement! Results: SMA 6 - Bonus Pastor 1 SMA 5 - HAAF 6 SMA (Year 8) 3 - SMA (Year 9) 3



YEAR 10

The team have made significant progress and are now starting to show their true potential. Outstanding performers are John Dada (GK) and Telvin Ajim, who have both been reported by Mr Cole as 'match winners' for their respective contributions to the team. Results: SMA 8 - 2 Bonus Pastor

YEAR 11

The team have had some excellent training sessions in preparation for their forthcoming cup game but due to academic priorities their matches have been limited. A special mention to Samuel Oliveira and Dylan Morris who have helped out with Year 9 and 10 training sessions. Good luck to the Year 11s in the cup!

LITERACY POLICY LAUNCH

On Friday, 2nd December, St Matthew Academy launched its new Literacy Policy. The goal is to promote reading across the Academy; provide support for all students who have fallen behind with their reading and boost spelling, punctuation and grammar skills, again, across the Academy.

Ms Agorioge



On a day of workshops and presentations designed to support staff with delivering high quality literacy activities, teachers brought in a favourite book to be photographed reading. These pictures will be used as part of a positive push on raising the profile of reading.

I can also announce the appointment of 2 new staff who will be helping to ensure that the Learning Resource Centre is available to all students before, during and after school for reading and extending learning. From January reading mentors will be working with students in the LRC before and after school, to support them with boosting their reading ages.

We believe that achieving good literacy is the right of everyone; that literacy is cross-curricular and that literacy is everyone's responsibility. Teachers and parents play a vital role in developing pupils' spoken language, reading, writing and vocabulary as integral aspects of every subject. Improving literacy standards is fundamental to raising students' self-esteem, confidence and achievement.

The school intends to actively pursue its Literacy Policy by:

- Improving the school's management of literacy through target setting linked

to systematic planning, monitoring and evaluation

- Establishing the importance of literacy across the curriculum by providing advice, training and support to teachers in both Primary and Secondary phases and all subject areas

- Ensuring that Primary and Secondary Literacy Coordinators work closely together to develop continuity of principles and practice

- Giving opportunities for students to develop their literacy skills both within and outside the classroom

- Reviewing all aspects of teaching and learning to ensure that it is accessible and challenging for all students

- Promoting and developing the use of the Learning Resource Centre

- Monitoring the progress of individual students and implementing intervention programmes as necessary

- Developing St Matthew Academy as a reading community in conjunction with parents

Ms Dunne



It is important, indeed vital, that parents are involved in our drive on literacy. If you would like to support with reading in either the Primary or the Secondary phase of the Academy, please contact me at igu@stmatthewacademy.co.uk.

Subject to the statutory paperwork, you are welcome to come in and lend a hand. Together we can have really positive impact on the literacy levels of students.

Mr Gunningham

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
KS3 Basketball Club Year 7 and Year 8 Sports Hall Mr Lynch / Mr Goksel Ms McKoy—Titans	Primary Clubs Sports Hall Astro Ms Toprak	KS3 & KS4 Netball Club All Year Groups Sports Hall Miss Cefai / Miss Eruvie Mrs Gordon—Lewisham Raiders	KS4 Basketball Club Year 9, 10 and 11 Sports Hall Mr Salih Ms Mckoy—Titans	KS3 Table Tennis Club Year 7 and 8 Sports Hall Mr Cole
KS3 & KS4 Girl's Fitness All Year Groups Fitness Suite Mr Lynch / Mr Goksel		Rowing Club KS4 Year 9, 10 and 11 Fitness Suite Mr Simmons / Mr Salih	Rowing Club KS3 Year 7 and 8 Fitness Suite Mr Simmons	