



**Forest Gate
Community
School**

Fly | Grow | Connect | Strive

newsletter

National award for Forest Gate's trust

THE Trust that runs Forest Gate Community School has been named Community MAT (Multi-Academy Trust) of the Year at a prestigious national awards ceremony.

The Community Schools Trust received the Community Trust of the Year award at the MAT Excellence Awards held in London.

The MAT was recognised for its outstanding work in transforming the lives of young people at Forest Gate Community, through a combination of high-quality education, mentorship, and support services.

Judges praised the trust for its commitment to raising aspirations and delivering exceptional academic outcomes across its schools.

Forest Gate Community School is ranked the best school in the borough for GCSE results and is in the top 50 nationally.

The MAT Excellence Awards celebrate the positive impact and success of school trusts across the country, highlighting those that go above and beyond to improve educational standards and student outcomes.

Mr Elliott, CEO of the Community Schools Trust and former head teacher Forest Gate Community, said: "This award is not just a celebration of our results, but a tribute to the dedication of our teachers, the hard work of our students, the support of families, and the strength of our community.

"At the Community Schools Trust, we are driven by the belief that every young person, regardless of their background, deserves a world-class education. This award is particularly



meaningful to us, as it reflects our core mission to transform lives through education. Our schools continue to demonstrate that with

high expectations, excellent teaching, and strong pastoral care, we can help young people overcome barriers and achieve success."

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

It's been a fantastic term of achievement

It has been another fantastic term of academic achievement at Forest Gate Community.

The work done here to transform the lives of young people with outstanding academic outcomes was a major contributing factor to the Trust that runs this school winning a prestigious award.

The Community Schools Trust was awarded the Community MAT of the year award at the MAT Excellence Awards.

Elsewhere, Year 10 students took part in the Platform+ programme at Westminster School, attending Saturday sessions in STEM and liberal arts subjects. This is a chance to study advance level topics at a globally renowned independent school.

Our Prestigious Colleges Programme continues to evolve this year incorporating a current affairs club.

This is a great chance to brush up on what is going on in the world so they can impress at interview.

One standout student, Minha, will be spending a week at the Eton College Summer School after being selected through a competitive process.

He's excited to explore life at one of the world's most renowned schools.

Year 10 student Timur achieved the highest score in the school on the national Biology Challenge, earning a gold certificate with a score of 94 percent.

There was also plenty to celebrate at this year's annual awards ceremony.

Students were recognised not only for academic performance but also for effort, politeness, and character.

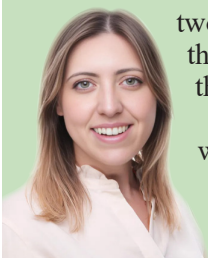
Creativity was on full display during the school's pantomime-style production of Peter Pan.

The show offered a modern twist on the classic, with a cast of 40 students and live music from the school choir and band.

Finally, this has been a big month for our Year 11 students who have been taking their GCSE exams. Our results have been among the best in the country in the last two years and we are confident this year's cohort will continue that success.

It just remains for me to wish you all a restful summer. See you again in September.

M & Goyan



Maya and Dhillon

Prom night provides a perfect last hurrah

THE school prom proved the perfect send-off for our Year 11 students.

They dressed to impress as the school came together to celebrate the end of their time at secondary school

There was a red carpet, photographers on hand to capture the big moment and a photo booth.

Students enjoyed a buffet and danced the night away to the

sounds of the DJ. There were awards for the best dressed, most likely to be Prime Minister and the Prom King and Queen.

Student manager Ms Macdonald said: "This was a wonderful last hurrah for our students before they left to take the next step on their exciting adventure.

"They all looked fantastic and had a great night of food, photos and dancing."



SPORTY students struck gold at the school sports day.

Student Dexter was at the double winning the 200m and 400m, while Kourtney left with a hat-trick of medals, including a gold in the long jump.

Kajus also scored two golds, in the 600m and 400m, while Skye achieved gold in the 200m.

The conditions couldn't have been better for competing at the event, which was held at the Lee Valley Sports Centre.

Every student took part, with those not competing having roles such as artist, team captain and journalist.

PE teacher Ms Rudman said: "Every student took part, making it a really inclusive and enjoyable event. Everyone had a role to play on the day.

"We really want our students to develop a lifelong love of sports so we make sure they try lots of different sports."

Peter Pan cast tinker well with Tinker Bell and gang

OUR talented cast left the audience in stitches with their panto-style performance of Peter Pan.

Their modern take on the classic children's tale was well received from parents, carers, teachers and students.

The cast of around 40 students were backed by the school choir and musicians. Year 10 Charles played the violin.

He said: "I was not nervous playing to a live audience because we had three dress rehearsals before so we were all quite relaxed.

"In fact, I really enjoyed playing to a live crowd.

"Everyone had their own role to play and enjoyed playing to an audience of family and friends."



Ten-week course at elite private school

YEAR 10 students have been studying at one of the top independent schools in the country after being accepted on to a prestigious programme.

Ren, Kaylah, Daisy and Hannan have been taking part in the Platform+ programme run by Westminster School.

They have attended the school on Saturday mornings for ten weeks, learning either STEM or liberal arts subjects.

The students are among a select group to have been chosen to take part in the programme aimed at nourishing academic ambition.

At the end of the programme, the students will have the opportunity to apply to Westminster School.

The school counts broadcaster Louis Theroux, politician Nick Clegg and actress Helena Bonham Carter among its alumni.

Student Hannah says the breadth



of the topics studied has expanded her knowledge. She added: “We have studied classics, economics and climate change. It’s beyond what we would do in school.

“I think the broad education I have

been taught will help with future studies and applications.

“I am on the Prestigious Colleges Programme and I really want to get into Westminster School. I really like the creative side.”

OUR Year 10 students have been prepping for interviews at top independent schools by catching up with current affairs.

The Prestigious Colleges Programme helps students win all-expenses-paid scholarships to private schools.

And to help with their applications, students have joined a current affairs club where they discuss the news of the day. This term they have been looking at the conflict in Gaza and the war between Russia and the Ukraine.

They have also been visiting some of the schools they will be applying to, including Chigwell School and City of London School. And they learnt how the law affects their daily lives during a visit to law firm Ashurst.

Year 10 Imran said: “Being

able to see what colleges I want to go to has been a really positive experience. I enjoyed visiting Chigwell School. It had a really welcoming environment.

“I am pleased I was among the select group of students chosen for the Prestigious Colleges Programme.

Year 10 Mahan said: “We have all seen the students going to these schools when we were in younger year groups, and it’s great to now be one of them.”

Student Rayan said: “It is interesting to talk about the things we see in the news. It gives you a deeper understanding of what is going on.

“Being up with current affairs will also help us when we come to do our interviews. These are the types of questions they ask.”

Eton Summer School

YEAR 10 Minha will get the chance to learn at Eton College.

He will spend the week living in halls alongside other students at the world-famous school’s Summer School.

Eton, *pictured*, counts princes William and Harry and former Prime Ministers Boris Johnson and David Cameron among its alumni.

Minha, who came through a selection process to win his place, said: “Eton offers a world of opportunity. I’m really excited to meet new people and make new friends. It’s going to be different but good.

“Staying in the halls is going to be really fun but quite nerve-racking because I will be away my family and in with people I don’t know.

“But the opportunity to study at the world’s most prestigious school will make it all worthwhile.”





Students enjoying a spin on the London Eye

Up, up and away on School Trips Day

STUDENTS headed for a funfair at the seaside as a reward for their hard work this academic year.

Whole School Trips Day saw every student in the school embark on an adventure outside of school.

Trips included days out at the London Dungeon, The London Eye, The London Aquarium and

Southend in Essex. The sun came out to greet the students fortunate enough to be on the trip to the Essex coastline.

They ate fish and chips on the beach and went on the rides at Peter Pan's Adventure Island.

Year 10 Hudhayfah said: "It was a fun trip; I was so glad to be a part of

the group that went to Southend. We went on all the rides. My favourite was the one that went upside down. It made my head spin a bit but in a good way.

"I think the Whole School Trips reward is a good thing because it lets you blow off steam at the end of a hard academic year."



Students get ready for launch on funfair ride

Special recognition for ‘always’ student Oliver

THE school has recognised high-achieving students in academic fields and beyond at its annual awards evening.

Pupils received awards across subjects, as well as in categories such as Head of Year Award, DPR Award and Politeness Award.

There was also a Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher award for the students who had stood out.

Year 8 Oliver was given the Deputy Headteacher Award by Mr Leather.

He said: “I was quite surprised to get the award because I never thought of myself as a student who is well behaved.

“It is nice to be recognised by the school for doing the right thing, behaving in class and giving 100 percent.

“It has been nice because it has also boosted my confidence to know the hard work is paying off.”

Deputy headteacher Mr Leather said: “Oliver is an *always* student – he is *always* on time, *always* pays attention in class, *always* tries his hardest.

“He is a role model student to the his peers because he is so polite and courteous to the staff and his fellow students.”



Oliver with deputy head Mr Leather

Timur tops biology contest

Year 10 Timur struck gold after achieving the highest score in the school in a national biology competition.

The bright youngster scored a near perfect 94 percent in the Biology Challenge, receiving the gold certificate.

The quiz, held at the school, saw 60 students take part in four rounds, with questions on genetics and ecology.

Timur said: “It was tough because the questions were beyond GCSE level. They were A-level style questions so was I pleased. To be the best performing student in the school is a big honour. I feel proud of

Duke of Edinburgh gold and silver

STUDENTS volunteered and took part in sports to complete their Duke of Edinburgh award this term.

Both bronze and silver awards were handed to students who also went on a camping expedition to Debden.

Year 10 Tanaka said: “It was a great feeling to get my silver Duke of Edinburgh award. I volunteered at the local youth club and really enjoyed it.

“It really opened my eyes to volunteering. Now I have decided to volunteer in the Red Cross charity shop because I want to help out a charity.”

Year 9 student Forest added: “The camping trip was the most fun.

“We walked from the school to Debden which was tiring but also really enjoyable.”



The race for head student saw campaigning get under way, with Rachel eventually elected.



Year 7 conducting a micro climate investigation as part of their geography class.



Year 11 students getting some last-minute prep for their GCSE exams.



Budding boxer Gilbert has taken part in his first exhibition bout.

The Year 8 student trains at Limehouse Boxing club two times per week.

He started getting interested in the sport when his sister's boyfriend showed him a few moves.

Gilbert said: "It was really hard to stay focused because there was a crowd there and everyone was cheering.

"I just focused on listening to what my coach was saying and trying to block out the noise from the crowd.

"I really enjoy boxing because it teaches you lots of discipline and also keeps you fit."



BROADCAST journalist Paul Connolly shared tips on interviewing and public speaking during a workshop with students.

The TV presenter, *above*, worked with our Prestigious Colleges Programme students, helping with their confidence ahead of interviews.

Paul has fronted television programmes on ITV, C5, Netflix, Discovery Channel and Sky History.

He said: "I hope these sessions taught the students how to communicate with confidence and clarity.

"The students were really engaged and seemed to enjoy the sessions and get something from it."



Goalkeeper Saniya receives her golden glove trophy

Girls clinch silver in football contest final

Our girls' team narrowly missed out on winning a football competition.

The Goals For Girls tournament is aimed at increasing grassroots participation in football.

The team of eight students took part in twelve matches, successfully navigating their way to the final.

But despite great effort they didn't quite do enough to take home the trophy, though keeper Saniya did win the golden glove.

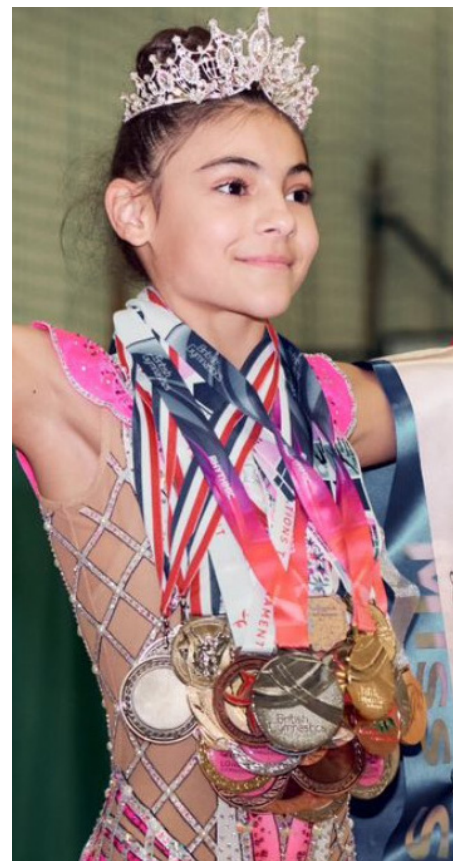
The other students who took part

were Abida, Amanda, Kayla, Naya, Amelia, Sofia, and Zuzanne.

PE teacher Ms Rudman said: "They got so close to winning that everyone was a little disappointed at the end. They played so well.

"The women's game has seen a huge increase in interest and coverage in recent years but there is still a long way to go.

"At grassroots level it's about showing the girls that it isn't tomboyish to want to play football."



Gymnast's gold at international tournament

Year 10 student Videlina took gold at an international gymnastics tournament.

She won first place in the clubs apparatus at the Nice Cup held in France.

She also took bronze at the ball event in the same competition.

Videlina has taken part in competitions all over Europe, including the World Cup held in Sofia, Bulgaria.

She said: "It felt really nice because I put in a really good performance and was able to show everyone what I was capable of.

"I have been doing gymnastics since I was three and I really love taking part in big competitions, particularly in other countries."

Despite devoting time to practising at gym club Devotions she has not fallen behind on her studies – and Videlina was the only student in Year 9 to complete her GCSE maths exam early.