



Bolingbroke Academy

SIXTH FORM SPRING TERM I NEWS 2017-18

Class of 2020

We have been busy holding interviews for all applicants from the Class of 2020 as well as all of our external candidates. It has been hugely rewarding talking to the Year 11s about the pride that they have in their academy, the value they place on the quality of teaching and relationships at the academy and their enthusiasm for being part of our second Year 12 cohort. Pupils spoke with enthusiasm about their ambitions for the future and their commitment to our 6 Cs – Curiosity, Courage, Creativity, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Communication. Where pupils are currently not quite on track to meet the entry requirements for their chosen courses and pathways, they left their meetings with a redoubled determination to raise their grades in the third set of mocks and in their final exams to secure their place here next September. It is clear from the number and quality of external applications we are receiving and from meetings with candidates that our new Sixth Form is establishing a reputation as a centre of academic excellence with expert, rigorous and highly personalised teaching and support for all.

EPQ

Our Year 12 cohort have been very busy over the last few months continuing their reading and research for their EPQ (Extended Project Qualification.) Many students are now in the midst of conducting practical research to apply to their project question after taught skills sessions on interview techniques and ethics. After half-term we will start the unit 'writing for meaning' which is focused on the importance of academic writing as students begin to write their 5,000 word thesis.

Sixth Form Physicists at Cambridge University

Jasmine Liu and Shannon Clarke (Y12) spent 3 days at Churchill College, Cambridge from the 6th to 8th Jan after winning a place on a Physics and Maths Revision Boot Camp. They visited the Cavendish Laboratory to be taught by university subject specialists and then were put to work through physics problems, asking for help when they needed to. **Shannon** reports that, "Some content was year 12 but we were stretched and learnt some year 13 content and even worked on derive physics equations which is beyond the A-level specification. Also, we had a lecture on Spin and Angular Momentum in the Pippard Lecture Theatre - where we participated in some practicals. Finally, we met some of the undergraduates and ate in halls. It was such a great experience!" Well

done Jasmine and Shannon! A big thanks also to **Ms Manisier** (KS5 Physics Lead), **Ms Allan** (KS5 Science Lead) and **Mr Iles** for preparing our Physicists/Mathematicians so well that they can thrive in challenging learning environments such as this.

Also, a huge congratulations to **Salma Awale** who has passed the entrance exam and made it to interview on the "Target Oxbridge" programme. We wish her the very best in this. Well done also to **Theo Rooney and Joe Barker** for taking all opportunities. They will travel to Cambridge University to partake in their Geography and Physics taster days this term.

“Brexit and Beyond” talk by Sir Ivan Rogers

The talk, held at Walworth Academy on Friday 18th January saw a number of Y12s are attending with Ms Robinson to listen to this interesting speaker. Sir Ivan Rogers studied History at Balliol College, Oxford after which he joined the Civil Service, spending much of his career at the Treasury. His Civil Service roles included acting as Principal Private Secretary (adviser and main link between the Prime Minister and the Civil Service) to Prime Minister Tony Blair and Chief Adviser on Europe and Global Issues to Prime Minister David Cameron. Until his resignation in January 2017, he was the UK's Permanent Representative to the EU in Brussels, which means he was the UK's main link and negotiator with the EU.

Academic Tutoring

Academic Tutoring continues to thrive at Bolingbroke. Every Monday and Tuesday, students are put through their academic paces in their long-term area of interest by a subject specialist. This term's theme is "Respect vs Tolerance". Amongst many other topics, tutors have covered the following fabulous content:

The representation of black girls in literature
Alt-writing: how the far right is changing US publishing
Does Art and Music have a place in 21st Century education
The rise of the far right and the Islamic State...artists responses
Eugenics and extremism
Sociocultural and evolutionary explanations for religious extremism.
The place of British Royal Societies in the scientific community.

Laura Wyld Visit



On Monday 29th January 2018, the Sixth Form students received a talk from Laura Wyld during their Monday morning briefing session.

Baroness Wyld, a graduate of the University of Cambridge, has risen through the political ranks from being advisor to the former Prime Minister David Cameron, to becoming the second youngest Peer in the House of Lords in June last year.

She is dedicated to changing young lives and mental health, even though she admitted that it can be challenging and scary putting forward such proposals in front of an audience of much older and experienced politicians.

After discussing her interesting journey to Westminster, Laura opened up the floor to questions from the Sixth Formers. A great many interesting and stimulating questions were asked, on hot topics such as Brexit, diversity in politics, and child and adolescent mental health and wellbeing, a topic of great interest to her.

As the mother of three young children she discussed juggling jobs and kids at the same time. Overall, she was a brilliant guest to have in our school, providing students with an insightful stimulus to provoke an interest in politics.

Editorial: James Wilson (Klein12)

We have been able to offer Year 12 a number of interesting opportunities since the beginning of term. All have been advertised through [Show My Homework](#) where you can find further information about the application process.

For further information and news please visit our website

<http://arkbolingbrokeacademy.org/sixth-form/news-events>