# **Journey**





# We Are Cheering You On!

#### **Prize-Giving - An Evening of Celebration**

On Wednesday the 15th of July 2020 Compass School was proud to host a virtual prize-giving ceremony. We had an amazing keynote speaker in the form of published author and leadership coach, Diane Osagie. It was fantastic to have some very exciting sponsors of the top prizes too.

Selecting students for prizes this year was particularly difficult with so many students being deserving of an award. The winners must therefore take pride in being chosen as they have stood out amongst a very competitive field. We would like to thank the Worshipful Company of Curriers, Shad Thames Residents' Association, the Worshipful Company of Pewterers, Grosvenor Britain and Ireland and our Compass Governors for sponsoring the top awards. Well done to all of our winners!



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Principal's Message

**Marcus Huntley** 



#### We are cheering you on

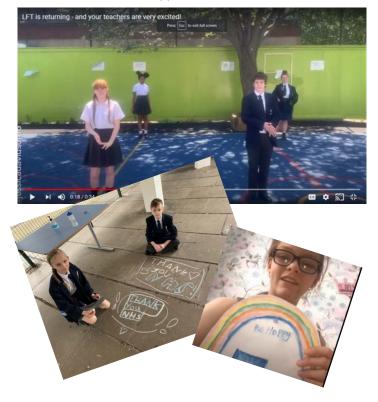
When keynote speaker, Diana Osagie, uttered those words as part of her inspirational prize-giving speech, she tapped in to that wonderful aspect of human nature that sees us willing others to succeed. Our virtual prizegiving video saw us celebrate the achievements and exemplification of Compass values of our pupils this year. They, alongside their peers, have been cheered on by our staff team this year, wanting them to be their very best. We are certainly proud of their achievements.

#### **A Supportive Community**

Our pupils have also been cheered on by our community, with so many contributions to our Hardship Fund from parents, teachers, businesses, residents' associations, livery companies and individuals from as far afield as Dubai. I am pleased for the 160 pupils who now have a laptop and I thank our kind donors for supporting our school and keeping our pupils' education going at this time.

#### **Giving Back**

We have also been able to give back to our community. While we clapped for the NHS on Thursday evenings, we were also happy to bring cheer to two ambulance workers by donating our science goggles. It has really been a team effort to support our NHS heroes.





Our fantastic keynote speaker for Compass Prize-Giving 2020!

Compass School has also worked to ensure pupils entitled to free school meals were supported during the shutdown with our supermarket vouchers. Our pastoral teams made food drops where extra support was needed, and more recently, we have teamed up with <a href="School Food Matters">School Food Matters</a> to provide fortnightly breakfast boxes for our community. We know that these things make a difference and we are pleased to be helping our community.





#### Wishing You a Safe and Happy Summer!

If there is a message for this term, it is that we are at our best when we stand together, supporting and cheering each other on. To paraphrase a Bill Withers lyric, it won't be long before we'll need somebody to lean on.

#### **Farewell**

Leavers this term are Mr Snoxell who has moved on to join a senior leadership team and Ms Oluwaseyi who is going to train to be a teacher. We thank them for their service to our school community and wish them the very best.

## **Futures Week - A Fair of Virtual Brilliance**

continued from cover - by Ms Cogher, Head of Careers

From Monday 8th of June to Friday 12th of June, students across all year groups at Compass had the opportunity to take part in Futures Week and explore their own interests and aspirations.

Students participated in our first ever Virtual Careers Fair by watching videos of professionals from a broad range of industries talking about their jobs. Using these videos, students learnt about working in a variety of sectors such as engineering, healthcare, hospitality, marketing, film production, consulting, technology and publishing.



Students also completed careers activities as part of their work for different school subjects over the week. For instance, Year 7 and 8 students learnt about the vast array of creative careers available to them as part of their art provision.

"The art activity for Futures Week was very interesting, because it helped me understand more about certain careers. For example, I found out that engineers created the Great Pyramid of Giza, an original monument and one of the Seven Wonders of the World!"

NABEEL ADAMS YEAR 8



It was a great week! Many thanks to the volunteers from our community who spoke to students about their careers and also to the students and staff team for their energy and enthusiasm for this online event!



"The activities on Unifrog have really helped me explore the routes I will need to get into my chosen career. I would highly recommend the website!'

BROOKE YEAR 10



# **Staying Connected**

by Ms Hazlewood, Assistant Principal for Pastoral

It has been a busy term for the pastoral team and a big change to our normal role. We have had to adapt our safeguarding, attendance and behaviour roles to the new way of lock-down life. We have all enjoyed visiting families safely on their doorsteps, momentarily removing some of the isolation many of us have felt during this period.

The pastoral team and Ms Oladejo have:

- · delivered food parcels to families in need.
- handed out GCSE art projects to allow students to continue their studies.
- provided activities for families to do.
- delivered books for students to read for pleasure.

problem-solved log-in/laptop issues on door steps.





When not on doorsteps, the pastoral team have maintained weekly contact with families on the phone and ensuring that the Compass Community have felt close-knit in these difficult times. We are proud of how our students and families have adapted and we look forward to seeing you all (in person) in September. Have a great summer holiday and stay safe.



Click here to complete this survey to improve your GP service and be in with a chance to win an Amazon voucher. https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/D5GZDYT

### Child Zero 1845 - 2020

by Mr May Head of Creative Arts and Enrichment

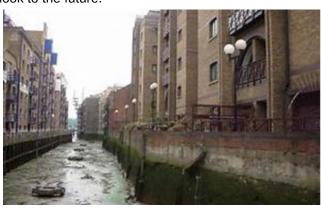
On the 15th of June 2020 twenty-seven of the world's leading scientific experts gathered on Drummond Road to offer their expertise to solve the mystery of Child Zero who went missing on the evening of the 23rd of March 1845. She was last seen in her family home in the notorious part of North Bermondsey known as Jacob's Island. They contributed to a number of research papers that led to a presentation on the 15th of July 2020 at Compass to their peers and the wider community.

The research looked at the causes of her disappearance and asked if it was connected to the Cholera outbreak of the same year. They asked challenging questions about whether the living conditions in North Bermondsey had a direct impact on infection rates and the ensuing deaths.

Their research informed the current discussions about Covid-19 and lent to the debate about the relationship between inner city living conditions and the prevalence of the virus there. Some challenging questions were asked and some difficult truths will need to be faced moving forward.



Please note all the Scientist were played by students from Years 7 to 9 who have been on site since the beginning of this term. We hope they found the journey an interesting one and that it has given them some perspective on where we are now and as we look to the future.



# Caring for our NHS, Kindness is 2020!

by Ms Quigley, School Librarian

On a Thursday afternoon in late April I was returning from a book charity in West London when I saw an ambulance outside my elderly neighbour, Herbert's house and went to ask the young Paramedic if he was OK. She quickly reassured me that he was fine, "Just going in to get checked out."

I saw she was only wearing a surgical mask, plastic apron and gloves and asked if she would like our school science goggles. - I had heard about this need for school goggles, shared the idea with Mr Huntley who had readily agreed to give ours to the NHS; our box of these was then delivered by Ms Hazlewood and Mr Flowers on their rounds of home-visits as I'd hoped to give them to Cameron Design House to deliver to the NHS. I'd been assembling face-shields for them and thought they could take them with my next batch. - I wasn't prepared for Marielle's reaction, she was overjoyed and said, " Thank you! We don't have anything like this!" She called to her colleague to come quickly and see what they'd been given, Jordan's reaction was the same, pure joy! They were both beaming, they put them on immediately and I remember Jordan saying, "Thank you! These are the real deal!" and Marielle saying, "These are going to make us safer!"

I was staggered by their reaction, I tried to tell them it was we who wanted to thank them and that paramedics from their team had saved my life only last year; but even when they asked how and tried to work out who (I'd been too poorly to get names), they wouldn't have it, they just kept thanking *me*. We'd introduced ourselves and I asked if I could take a photo to share with our community, Marielle said she lived nearby and asked which door number was mine. I'd thought it was so she could find out and let me know the name of the paramedics who's helped me.





Marielle and Jordan from The London Ambulance Service

On the Sunday afternoon I heard something being posted though my door and went to open it; it was a Thank You card from Marielle, Jordan and the London Ambulance Service. I went out to catch Marielle, she asked after Herbert, I let her know his daughter had texted me on Saturday that he was doing well. I told her that this card was beyond lovely and so unnecessary, that I was and we as a school community were, so grateful, but she said she and her team wanted to thank us and particularly the students.

#### The card reads:

"To Sarah, Many thanks for the donation of your school's safety goggles, we are very appreciative of your generosity. Tell your students we are safer at work thanks to them,

Much love,

The London Ambulance Service, Marielle and Jordan xxx"

Nothing prepared me for encountering such humility, love and courage from these wonderful young women and the rest of their colleagues in the London Ambulance Service. Experiencing and then writing this, I have felt so many emotions, the overriding ones are gratitude, admiration and love for these amazing people. I'm so happy we were able to do something to help these heroes and know that our students and the rest of our school community will feel the same.

# Thank You Children's Book Project!

by Ms Quigley, School Librarian

During this time, we have realised the importance of staying connected to each other more than ever; making new connections and even a new friend for our Compass community might have seemed unlikely in theory. In practise, at a time where the potential to feel isolated was great, people have made huge efforts to reach out, to try to do what they could to help each other.



Twitter is a great way to make connections with organisations and keep track of what is happening in a field of interest. I follow lots of authors, publishers, literacy organisations and charities and stumbled across a great one a while ago, <a href="The Children's Book Project">The Children's Book Project</a>. This fantastic charity is the brain-child of Liberty Venn; she feels passionately as do I, that reading for pleasure at home has a massively positive impact on the lives of children, young people and their families. Health and well-being, a wider knowledge of the world, empathy, confidence and a broader vocabulary are just some of the many benefits of





Our brilliant pastoral team have helped me to get these books to students during lock-down and many students have received at least one of these free 'books to keep' so far. I very much hope they have enjoyed reading these and look forward to giving more away in the hope of igniting the same passion for reading that Liberty and I share! I would like to congratulate my new friend on her very recent good news in winning The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service! When we can be together in numbers once more, we've been invited to share the celebration of this great news! I hope there will be students who would like to come along! Have a safe summer and







The Queen's Award

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# **Community Matters**

by Ms Walkey-Williams, Assistant Principal for Community

As one of our core values, community really is at the heart of everything that we do at Compass and never has this been more important! Helping our students, their families and our staff stay connected and still feel a sense of community, even when apart, was paramount to our plans for Virtual School.

Our social media pages have been hives of activity, bursting with student work, photos of them working hard at home and even parents getting involved with our 'Guess the Baby Teacher' game! We have been able to use our pages to share and celebrate all of the wonderful things that have been happening across our community and we will be keeping up this level of engagement when things return to normal. The Community Quiz has also been a great way to keep us all engaged. The weekly quiz has proved a popular event with teachers competing against students and their families to win the crown. Mr Huntley was disappointed not to be victorious, he was beset by computer issues!





Our Heads of Year also made sure that they stayed connected with their year groups through the medium of videos – who didn't enjoy seeing new dad, Mr Haverty, in his pyjama bottoms?! The videos have been a fantastic way to celebrate students who have been working hard at Virtual School and who have shown their resilience for all to see.

The "Thank a Community" video was also a big hit, with staff and students taking part to thank each other and the wider community for all of their support since the closure – check it out on our YouTube channel if you haven't already seen it! Check out our Twitter and Facebook page too!



Finally, since we reopened our doors to some students following the May half-term break, new smaller community bubbles have grown! Our students who are on site have formed and developed new friendships with the students in their group. They have spent their break and lunchtimes creating pavement art, group Tik-Toks and celebrating the work of our wonderful NHS.



There will never be any substitute for us all being together in the classroom but, at this unique time, we want to thank each and every one of you who have helped to make us all appreciate the very special community that everyone at Compass School is proud to be a part of.

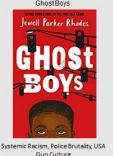


# **Library News**

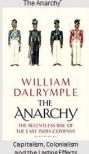
by Ms Quigley, School Librarian

Although we haven't all been in school together, it hasn't stopped us pulling together to deliver the best resources remotely and plan for the coming academic year. I have been sending weekly emails with: eBooks, links to audio books, activities, competitions and opportunities to attend museums and galleries (virtually of course) and to watch and review plays.

#### Connect With and Think About Unfairness and Racism in Society







Thinking ahead, I have been compiling lists of books ones that we already have, and ones I'd like to buy for the library; I have asked students to share their thoughts. When I share these lists, plan and purchase books the aim is to: support, entertain, educate, amuse, inform and transport the students of Compass. Please encourage your child/ren to participate in all that the library can offer. Here are samples of each of these lists:

Some Book Choices for Compass 2020 - 2021 Wishlist Which cover catches your eye? Which description grabs your attention? Do you have a book in mind to add to your library wishlist?





















I will be delighted to hear student voice on our new and existing titles!

#### Some More Book Choices for 2020 – 2021

Email Ms Quigley with your votes and suggestions!

















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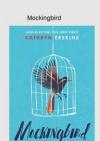






I have been working with Mr Huntley, Ms Oladejo and her team in Inclusion and Ms Ragusa's team of Student Leaders to create 'A place to Connect' with books in our library catalogue. This visual list will be available online for students.

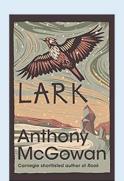
#### Connect With and Think About







I have emailed a large list of options for our 2020-21 Wish-list. They include the cover and a brief description of each book along with a link to the author's or publisher's website for students to peruse and get back to me with their views and any suggestions. I look forward to hearing from them, please encourage them to share their thoughts.



Things are tense at home for Nicky and Kenny. Their mum's coming to visit and it will be the first time

A lot has changed since they were little and Nicky's not so sure he's ready to see her again. When they head for a trek across the moors to take their minds off everything, a series of unforeseen circumstances leaves the brothers in a vulnerable and very dangerous position.

There might even be a chance that this time not everyone will make it home alive.

This dyslexia-friendly book is the winner of the 2020 Carnegie Award

#### Anthony McGowan



Football, romance and Death Metal...it's a

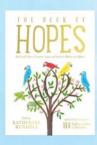
At October half-term. Dylan's dream is to be reunited with Leo, the gorgeous boy he met over the summer. The reality: football camp, thanks to his sports-mad dad

At least Dylan's best friend Kayla is here, on a quest for tickets to see her favourite band, Deathsplash Nightmares, but it looks like being a tedious week

Enter Dylan's long-time crush, Freddie Alton. Then Kayla discovers that the Nightmares are staying in the very same hotel as they are. Birdie Milano

#### Try this **Book of Hopes** over the summer.





Read it for free: literacytrust.org.uk/bookofhopes

# Windrush Day

by Mr Haverty, Head of Year 8 and Relating Subject Lead

As someone who has lived their whole life in South East London, I have always taken for granted the rich mix of cultures and people who I have been lucky enough to grow up around. London is a place where cultures combine and flourish and this mix is what makes it such a wonderful and unique area. However, I was not always aware of how we got here, how has London become this diverse hub?

There is a wealth of stories that could help me answer this query, but Windrush Day really gave me the opportunity to learn and fill in a massive piece of this jigsaw. Although I was aware of Windrush, I feel that celebrating this day was an excellent opportunity for me to really open my eyes to their contributions and how their influence has truly affected what it means to be British today.



As Mr Huntley explained in one of our weekly Bulletins, the Windrush generation are the people who came from the Caribbean to help rebuild Britain post-war. They are known as the Windrush generation due to the name of the boat which first brought people to these shores.

This was part of the government initiative to use people from the Commonwealth to provide much-needed support to restore the country's prosperity. These first boats would bring so many influential arrivals, from Sam King who would go on to become Southwark's first black mayor, to Aldwyn Roberts (AKA Lord Kitchener) a famous Trinidadian Calypso singer who was actually caught on camera singing his famous 'London is the place for me' on the first Windrush arrival. And just as importantly the people who helped fill jobs, for many men, manufacturing and construction, as well as public transport and for many women in the NHS as nurses and nursing aides, as well as in public transport and in manufacturing. Their contributions are felt even to this day in helping to build the infrastructure of post-war Britain, as well as the fabulous NHS, both examples of things which we really take for granted today.



Although the Windrush generation came to help Britain, they faced racism from all corners.

The infamous phrase 'No Blacks, No Dogs, No Irish' was plastered around pubs, hotels, bedsits and flats across the country; clearly informing groups they were not welcome. Racial tensions were high and in 1959, to try and combat these tensions, a Carnival was created by Trinidadian journalist, Claudia Jones.



The Notting Hill Carnival, which has now become Europe's biggest street party and a celebration of Afro-Caribbean culture, hosts 2 million visitors every year; it has become an iconic part of London culture and an event where I have certainly had a lot of fun. This was one step in London becoming a more accepting place, influenced heavily by the Windrush generation, however, racism has not disappeared and that's why I feel educating ourselves on all aspects of being British is so important. For me, learning about the Windrush generation has been an important part of that, and this opportunity to celebrate has shown us that colour does not define nationality, and that British culture is a wide mix of things taken from everywhere. I think this is perfectly summed up in the poem by Benjamin Zephaniah (poet, author and the son of Caribbean







### **Black Lives Matter**

Ms Mohamed, Teacher of English

Upon the return of Learning Family Time, Ms Mohamed created a Power Point presentation to share virtually with students. It marked Windrush Day and described the recent and ongoing treatment of this generation - The "Windrush Scandal". The presentation also provided a "Black Lives Matter" discussion space for students in their Learning Families.

#### **Black Lives Matter**

- · What does it mean?
- Why are we talking about it?
- · Why is it important?
- · What can Ido?







It means that we support them and show them that they are important and valued.

What is an ally and how can I be one?

It is important to be an ally to the cause.



#### Windrush Scandal



On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June 1948, 1,027 passengers arrived in Tilbury, Essex on the Empire Windrush to help rebuild England after World War 2. Many of them were children, arriving to the country on their parents' passports, however over the years, the Home Office had destroyed many of the documents showing they had the right to remain in the UK.

Falsely deemed as 'illegal immigrants' they began to lose their access to housing, healthcare, bank accounts and driving licenses. Many were placed in immigration detention, prevented from travelling abroad and threatened with forcible removal, while others were deported to countries they hadn't seen since they were children. It aimed to make the lives of those migrants so bad that they would be forced to leave the country.

By August 2018, 11, 800 individuals of Caribbean Commonwealth nationality had been removed or detained by the Home Office since 2002.

As of  $31^{31}$  March, there have been 13,745 refusals under the Windrush Scheme for applications for settlement in the UK (data from Home Office).



It means that we help them get their voices heard across the world.



It means that we stand together against inequality and we help end it.





# Why 'Black Lives Matter' and not 'All Lives Matter'?



This means knowing that some of us have privileges, but just because some things happen to others and not us, does not mean we don't care. We are willing to learn and understand others who are suffering.



Imagine one house on a street is on fire. Now, we obviously would not be hosing down ALL of the houses, would we? We would pay special attention to the house that is on fire.

It doesn't mean that the other houses aren't important, but rather they are absolutely fine at the moment.

This is similar to saying 'all lives matter.'

Ofcourse, ALL lives matter.

But the problem in our world right now is that the black community is being treated worse than any other race.

'Black Lives Matter' is an activist group that try to stop the violence and racism faced by the Black community.

### Virtual Enrichment this Term

by Mr May, Head of Creative Arts and Enrichment

Compass Enrichment has had a lot of successful activities happening over the last three months. There has been real creativity and inspiration to reflect on the world and how we inhabit it, how we relate to each other and celebrate our similarities and our differences.



Ms Ragusa successfully led the Eco-Committee in reflecting on how we can re-purpose the plastic around us with Kati Philips and even Ms Quigley making some creative model birds out of plastic bottles. Meanwhile, George Thomas has documented some interesting photographic images from our local environment challenging notions of waste and want.



A shout out goes to Mr Osman from YUSSICO and Ms Quigley for leading Leather-work Enrichment. Students. They have been making paper-based designs and using anything to hand to customise bags in preparation for leather-work next academic year. Hats off to Mr Osman who made scrubs for the NHS throughout lock-down too!

Ms Field has been posting some excellent singing exercises and has delivered our first live, online singing lessons at Compass. Two well-known Michael Jackson songs, 'Heal the World' and 'Beat It' were amongst those chosen to inspire, uplift and get students' toes tapping!

Ms Melling has been directing students to the Burnet News website where students have been posting thoughts and feeling about their experiences of lockdown.

Ms Walkey-Williams and Ms Parkinson have been receiving entries for our inaugural First Stories publication; one such, is a moving poem by Ollie Martin.

Ollie is a fantastically honest and kind Year 8 student; he usually spends a lot of his free time with students and the great team in our wonderful Inclusion department as he has autism. Ollie tries his best in all he does, he is a walking inspiration and an all round joy. His poem is a testament to his thoughtful, courageous character and his creative soul. Ollie, you're a star!



I social distance, I don't speak to people too much, I am lonely sometimes,

I am kind, I am not weird,
I did this before corona-virus even existed, I am
not weird, I am good,
and since corona-virus happened,
everyone has to social distance,
which means, I'm not weird after all,

and I was the normal person.

Now everyone has to social distance, use online features to communicate with others, stay at home, everything that I already did.

I am not weird,

I have never been weird, I am normal.











# **LGBT+ Committee - Compass is Proud!**

by Ms Di Stazio, Teacher of Spanish and Head of Year 9

The rainbow flag waved proudly here at Compass as again our students proved our school is an antiprejudice, non-discriminatory and proudly diverse community. The LGBT+ committee at Compass is a group of devoted and determined young people; their aim is to inform, to tackle homophobia and bullying by giving voice to the unspoken characters in a room of protagonists.

At Compass, we are really proud to celebrate diversity each and every day, underpinned by the LGBT+ committee's passionate and dedicated work of shining a light on mental health and the impact on the lives of those who face such challenges, as alienation or non-acceptance. Understanding and accepting the truth of others and educating ourselves are the first steps for establishing a strong community which strives to form outstanding, open-minded and compassionate individuals. Well done for all your hard work LGBT+ committee! Let's celebrate our differences together and learn to accept others for who they are.

Well done to all the students who created fabulous artwork to celebrate Pride!











# Introducing Ms Mohamed as Head of Year 8 for 2020-21

by Ms Mohamed



In June 2020, I was assigned the role of Head of Year 8 for 2020/21. This meant that I have had the wonderful opportunity to work closely with Head of Year 7, Ms Hayward. It has been an incredibly enjoyable experience thus far, as I delved into all things Year 7. I am beyond delighted to have so many remarkable, wonderful and talented students. Go, future Year 8!

A special mention to the following students who have all acquired a vast number of postcards and shout-outs during, particularly during school closure: Alex L, Camila M, Greta P, Mohamad N, Saxon ST, Justin T, Eden P, Brigitte CC, Samuel A and Regan F. Your aspirational efforts, integrity and resilience during virtual school and continual exploration across a range of subjects have truly impressed me in such a short amount of time. A special shout-out to you all for your unyielding commitment to your education and for persevering through virtual school. I am very proud of all you have accomplished, and continue to do so with the support of your Learning Family Tutors, who have been marvellous and compassionate as they championed your success.

As we prepare for the next part of our journey, I am very excited to get to know you all individually, to watch as you flourish academically and develop as young people. I am very eager to see what lies ahead for us as Year 8: from the competitions we will win, the trips we may go on, and the performances in which we will participate. I hope you have a fantastic and restful summer holiday – you certainly deserve it!

# Year 7 Steps Up! by Ms Hayward Head of Year 7

The final term of Year 7 has certainly been one which nobody was expecting! One moment we were halfway through our different topics in physical school, the next moment school was closed and students found themselves becoming part of Compass Virtual School.





Taking part is what it's all about!

Many of the students have risen to the challenge of being part of our Virtual School! They have excelled at completing their work and thinking of interesting and creative ways of keeping themselves entertained during lock-down! I have been delighted to see them being so creative; they have done so much to impress, including drawing, knitting, baking and creating amazing tributes to our NHS staff!







A big shout out to Saxon for her amazing artwork as well as to Camila M, Greta and Olivia who, amongst others, have been consistently amazing in their work ethic and in their effort and attitude to school.







This year has not been a usual Year 7 but I am very proud of everyone in this year group and how they have 'stepped-up' especially during this tricky time.

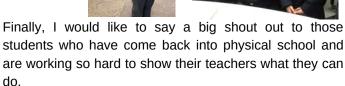








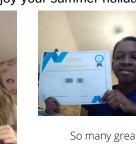




I know and understand that it has been tricky to get back into the swing of school, but I am impressed at how they have handled this, I say to them, "Keep going!"

I look forward very much to see everyone back together soon!

Enjoy your summer holiday!











# Year 8 is Unstoppable!

by Mr Haverty, Head of Year 8

My first year of being Head of Year 8 at Compass has certainly been like no other. From day one we have gone from strength to strength. What I have been most impressed with is our students' resilience in the face of unprecedented circumstances, always finding a way to be their best selves. We have all been on a journey, learning new skills almost daily, and through it all Year 8 have proved themselves to be professional, aspirational, all with just the right dash of humour, again and again.



One of our Year 8 students really applied himself to his leather-work enrichment and was one of three students lucky enough to win a great prize!

Millie and Taylor-Rae overcoming some technical and other issues, to still produce so much outstanding work, always finding a way, has been inspiring! We have had students writing poems which have reduced teachers to tears due to their craft and use of emotive language; Ollie M and Lily-Jay are two such examples of this. We have also seen no less than 16 (and counting) students achieve more than 500 house-points, a feat never seen before at Compass! Special mentions for Nabeel and Katie who have broken the 700 barrier, in what can only be described as an unbelievable achievement. Year 8 have clearly been setting the standards!



"Like a flower, she flew away."

The six-word story winner Lily-Jay James!

Our first ever assessments week was frankly incredible! I was lucky enough to speak to so many in our Year 8 community and the effort levels really had been turned up to the max. The integrity displayed by Year 8 to complete their assessments in the correct way just goes to show what an amazing team I have in Year 8.



An awesome achievement!



100% Attendance is something to be celebrated!

An amazing effort! Well done!

It has been a pleasure talking, learning and laughing with you all, families included, and I cannot wait to see how far all of us can go together!

Have a great summer Year 8! All the best, Mr Haverty :-)

# Year 9 is Year 10 Ready!

by Ms Di Stazio, Head of Year 9

Another year has passed by so fast - this one was certainly a unique but ultimately an enjoyable experience.

All of you, each in your own remarkable ways, have demonstrated how strong and resilient you are, particularly with managing unpredictable circumstances and adapting to new, sudden changes. I want to thank students for maintaining their integrity and ensuring they kept their standards high, especially those who have been nominated for postcards in virtual school every week. Millie H, the reigning champion of maths, Jack and George for their incredible resilience and achievement in English, Hung and Eduardo for their aspirational efforts to never miss a deadline in any subject.

I want to congratulate Tyreese, Casey W, Naithan and Mariam for being so engaged and bringing joy to everyone on site and say well done to Hannah for excellent artwork!



Excellent engagement Edu!

Thank you again, to Casey W for his incredible commitment with work experience! I want to say thank you to Javan, Teddie H, Sahr, Jamari and Michael for realising that it's possible to turn things around, and most importantly, that we all own and are responsible for our future. Ameer, Jack, Luke and George, I'm grateful for their relentless engagement and for being at the top of the house-points charts every week! Finally, I want to congratulate to Casey H for her incredible article exploring how to welcome and integrate refugees into your community.





Well done Casey Hitchcock!

We have heard powerful voices supporting BLM; amazing thoughts from Mohamado, Paola and Juliet. A point of reflection for our community that came out of their group discussion on Ms Mohamed's LFT presentation: "For those who don't understand that we are all the same, we must continue to speak for all the lost lives so far and those that may be lost in the future."



Year 9, now the entire attention is on you, yes that's right! You are going to be Year 10 in September. Practise saying I can, instead of I can't; say I am proud of my journey instead of I am not going to make it. And as Leon has written in his amazing poem, "Let's be better together".



Looking forward to more exploration in 2020-21!

Looking forward to seeing you all, taller and ready to start your Year 10.

Enjoy your summer!

# A Virtual Transition Day For Year 6

by Ms Hayward, Head of Year 7

Compass' first ever Virtual Transition day started at 9:30 on Wednesday the 1st of July with a Zoom assembly led by Ms Walkey-Williams and myself. Here, students began to meet their fellow students and excitement built, before students found out which Houses they had been sorted into and who their new Learning Family Tutor was going to be. Many students and parents started to learn about the school's rewards system and the plan for the day ahead before they were 'let loose' on the school's newly created Transition page.







#### Visit our classrooms for your transition activities

Read the information in each room and complete the "Transition Activities" to win house points. There are also a range of other challenges to keep you going over the summer.











Our future Year 7 students spent the day watching videos of the different members of staff, taking part in fun English and maths activities, including creating a group story where at one point, Mr Huntley was carried away by an Eagle! The students were then given the opportunity to learn about the different enrichment choices that will be offered in September before they picked their top three choices! They will have to wait to find out which of their choices they got, so something to anticipate.

The day ended with a short question and answer session after which, all students left feeling excited and looking forward to joining our Compass Community in September.

# What a Year, Year 10!

by Mr Egbuchiem, Head of Years 10 and 11

From day one of the school year, where I outlined my own personal expectations of students (and myself), all the way up to Virtual School, Year 10 have continued to test me, test themselves, and in essence, enabled us all to grow naturally into new levels of expectation.

I have been so impressed by the gargantuan effort applied by these students, their parents and guardians and my colleagues. These collective endeavours have enabled us to create a positive and strategic outlook to help them become everything they aspire to be in Year 11 and beyond.





Work experience was fun, and there was nothing better than going to a multi-national financial accounting company and seeing Isaiah Campbell suited, booted, and undiluted, fully integrated with the staff team, oh so casually looking over John Lewis' accounting affairs.

Ashleigh Taylor had her comfort zone destroyed, shadowing teams of people trying to bridge the poverty gap in the local community. Ashleigh was at the forefront of a local neighbourhood office, not having much time to wear her 'kid gloves', as the robustness of data protection was thrust upon her with immediate effect. Dillon was at a boxing club, Archie at Transport For London operations, Vincenzo on a farm and the list goes on.





As the year progressed, they blossomed at every turn. Mock exams, changes to rules and new routines in place, all of these challenges were met, wrestled and ultimately embraced. The resilience born out of bouncing back from temporary defeat has been absolutely fantastic to witness. Students who have always been attaining top grades and displaying exemplary behaviour have striven to ascend to even greater heights.

Year 10 students' performance and attitude during their First Give social action project further enhanced and indeed cemented their reputation as an impressive group.



It has been a year to remember with much growth taking place. I look forward to ensuring that these students continue to bloom throughout Year 11; another vital stage on the road to the destination to which they aspire.

One thing made clear from Virtual School is that as a unified Compass community, we are providing the right level of momentum for Year 11 to be a success.



It is about to be game time, so let's get ready to go and win those championships (GCSEs in case you're asking).

Have a great, safe summer and come back ready for an awesome year to show even more of your greatness!

# Still Making Mr Egbuchiem Proud, Year 11 by Patrick Egbuchiem, Head of Years 10 and 11

We can make all the plans we want to, but God, nature, fate, whichever and whatever you believe in, has a way of reminding you of how little we actually control. This Year 11 cohort has been the total embodiment of the Compass values, attired in aspiration, emblazoned with exploration, imbued with integrity, and rampant with resilience.



Year 11 at the end of their First Give social action project.



Inclusion has been an integral support to students.



Working lunch visitors have been fascinating.



Year 11 students have spent time with our fantastic neighbours,



The tradition of signing shirts at the end of Year 11 came early this year.



An inspirational visit from **Dumi Otobra** 

I have seen increasing levels of maturity developing; college applications rumble on as I am typing. Study skills are still a sought-after commodity as our students want to perfect their practice ahead of sixth form/college. Questions about grades and university pour into my inbox despite the fact that, by now they would have left school. These are the actions of motivated students. My hat goes off to them, they have made me, and I'm sure the whole school, proud.

Roll on a safe and socially distanced summer, and be on the lookout for your yearbook to celebrate the wonderful young people that you are and the time spent with us at Compass.

Time to relax for a beat folks, good luck in advance, and keep working towards the future! We'll look forward to a time when you will be able to come and tell us what you've been doing!

### Daily Exercise Benefits All

by Mr Flowers, Head of Sport

Every week we have been setting daily 30-minute exercise videos. We believe this has been a real success and know that so many have engaged and enjoyed these workouts. As a school, and I'm sure we feel like many others around the country, so thankful for the amazing work that Joe Wicks has been doing helping to ensure regular exercise videos are available for our young people. We know that regular exercise has numerous benefits including:

- Increasing energy levels as your cardiovascular system can get oxygen and nutrients more efficiently around your body giving you more energy.
- Maintaining body weight by burning more calories. The more you exercise, the more muscle you build which increases your body's metabolism, so you also continue to burn yet more calories following exercise.
- Improving brain function as exercise increases oxygen and blood flow to the brain. Also, when exercising hormones are released; this encourages the development of the areas of the brain responsible for memory and learning.
- Improving sleep by being active. Physical activity helps make you more tired, so you're more ready to sleep. This can help reduce stress and increase more positive feelings.



- · Improving mood; when you exercise your brain releases hormones called endorphins which help increase happiness and reduce stress, making you feel more relaxed.
- All this, and more from just 30 minutes of physical activity a day. So it's great that there are so many YouTube fitness coaches giving such a range of workouts, to help us be as active as possible during this time.
- · From a personal perspective, I would like to add a special thanks to Mr Haverty and Ms Mohamed for their engagement in the staff PE challenges that were set.

### The London Virtual Youth Games 2020

by Mr Flowers, Head of Sport

The last few weeks our community has been involved in the Virtual London Youth Games through a variety of sporting challenges. The London Youth Games runs every year and is a London wide competition where boroughs compete in a variety of sports to see who is the most sporting borough. This year, due to Covid-19 this has moved into a virtual arena where students were set weekly challenges, ranging from kick-ups in football, to dance routines and Boccia (similar to boules, but a Paralympic sport). In these challenges students had to submit videos to score points for Team Southwark. Our wider community of Southwark eventually finished 10th out of 33 boroughs in London. Thank you and well done to those who participated, especially Faruk Bello who was such a proactive member of the team!



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Cross over dribble





How many crossover dribbles can you do in 60s? Score 1 point per cross over Equipment: 1 basketball, a timer Any ball that bounces

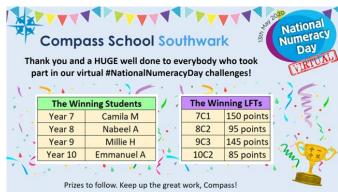
# What a Numeracy Week!

by Ms Russo, Teacher of Maths

On May the 13th, Compass held its first virtual National Numeracy day festival! Students took part in a number of activities and competitions to earn house points for their LFT with 7C1, 8C2, 9C3 and 10C2 reigning victorious!

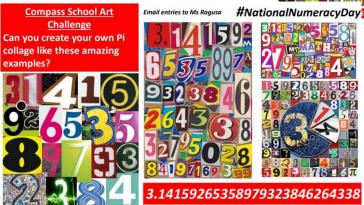
We all had great fun playing the game, '24' online in our virtual classrooms alongside our students, laughing at the never-ending submissions to the maths joke competition, being amazed by students' creativity and watching Ms Hazlewood and Mr Snoxell battle it out to become Compass Countdown champion. Theo and Alex in Year 7 gave it their very best, submitting Mr Huntley's favourite joke, "I had a hen who could count her own eggs; she was a mathemachicken". The winning students from each year group received their own '24' game cards, a pencil and compass set and their own copy of 'This is not a maths book'.

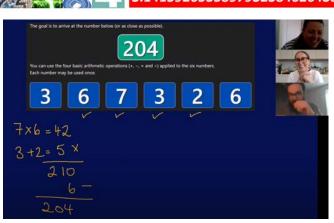












Good numeracy plays a vital role in all our lives. Not only supporting our students throughout their school years across all their subjects but into adult life where so many of our daily decisions are based on numerical information. With number confidence and skills more important than ever, and maths anxiety affecting the majority of adults.

National Numeracy Day aims to encourage everyone to take the 'National Numeracy Challenge' and join 285,000 others who have already started improving free their numeracy with support from nationalnumeracy.org.uk. With an end goal to create a more positive 'can-do' attitude to maths and numeracy, this is one that we whole-heartedly support and hope to nurture at Compass School. We are all hugely looking forward to next year's bigger and better #NND festival and hope that you will join us!

#### **Inclusion News**

by Ms Oladejo, Head of Inclusion

"Challenges are what make life interesting and overcoming them is what makes life meaningful." – Joshua J Marine





Tuesday the 2nd of June saw Compass School opening our doors to children of key-workers and other eligible pupils. With the belief that every student in Compass community will confidently reach the destination to which they aspire, we know well-being plays a key role in the lives of all our students. This is why, during physical school each student has been given the opportunity to engage in well-being activities such as taking respite in Inclusion to enjoy: Lego therapy, playing 'Articulate', clay modelling, jewellery making or 'Tik-Tok' dancing. They have been outside using chalk to express a feeling and create or up to visit Julie, our School Counsellor.



We value the importance of healthy living and the wellbeing of everyone in our community and are conscious that the needs of families extend beyond our educational provision. We have assisted with food parcels, baking kits and fun, active indoor tasks to keep the spirits up in the homes of our students in need, during and past the peak of lock-down.

One of my most memorable home visits was during National Numeracy Day in May when one of our Year 7 students entertained us with his maths jokes! What an inspiration he was, trying his hardest to make us laugh in difficult times.

Life has indeed been challenging for all of us during this time of uncertainty. Compass teachers, students and families have shown what a great community we are when we all work together to support and encourage one another. This encouragement can especially be seen from all the families that we visited; it was a delight to see so many opening the door, expressing their gratitude and kind words. Together, we have shown the true meaning of community and resilience.



Although the weekly Thursday clapping has stopped for our amazing NHS, we at Compass School applaud our families, as without them we wouldn't be the community we are right now.

In the words of Martin Luther King Jr "If I cannot do great things, I can do small things in a great way." Let us continue to be a blessing to one another by doing many small things in a way that enriches all our lives.

# **Art at Compass**

by Ms Ragusa, Head of Art

During virtual school Compass students were set weekly challenges by the Art department. These ranged from fun ideas to topical and meaningful commissions. Art is a really powerful way to communicate thoughts, ideas and feelings and these tasks gave students an opportunity to do this.





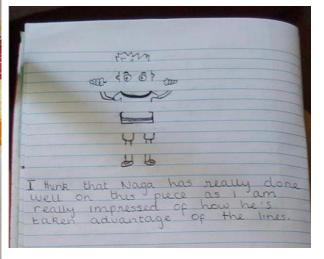






Our students rose to the challenges, each submitting a wide range of works. These challenges included, Google Earth alphabets, rainbow art thanking the NHS, Compass school value challenges, a Numeracy Week challenge and responses to 'Black Lives Matter' and 'Pride'. A favourite would have to be the googly eye challenge, an amazing response from Saxon and her family, and the pieces relating to 'Black Lives Matter' and diversity. Well done Compass artists!





### **Mental Health Week**

by Mr Haverty, Head of Year 8 and Relating

Never before has the discussion around mental health been more prevalent and this made Mental Health Awareness Week more important than ever. It has always been my goal to make this subject less taboo and create spaces where people are as comfortable to discuss their mental health as they would their physical health.

"It's our bonds with others that make us stronger."

The week started with students sharing inspirational quotes and their submissions were well... 'inspiring'. One particular quote from a student who has chosen to remain anonymous really struck a chord "It's our bonds with others that make us stronger." During this pandemic it seemed that our community spirit and being there for one another was something that really helped us all improve our mental health, we had already learned in relating lessons at school that studies show the key to happiness is the strength of our relationships with one another.

We were also lucky enough to have some students take part in a 'Zoom Creative Writing/Wellness Session' meeting hosted by author, Hattie Holden-Edmonds and mindfulness expert, Mary-Louise Morris. It really offered students some excellent tactics to not only be creative but also learn some amazing mindfulness techniques to try and help all of our mental health well-being. I particularly enjoyed hearing about Reggie H's peaceful place being a tree near his house and how he used this to help refresh and reset his mind when he maybe is experiencing stress. The experts showed Reggie that he could still use this in lock-down through visualisation techniques, all very fascinating and valuable learning.







All in all, the week was an amazing success, but it is vital that we continue this learning, we can all improve, we all still have so much to learn and share about this topic and talking about it in safe comfortable spaces is something we must strive to see more of at school and society as a whole.

# Mindfulness and Creative Writing Session

by Ms Quigley, School Librarian

Ahead of Mental Health Week this year I was delighted to receive an email from previous visitors to Compass, Mary-Louise Morris, an expert in mindfulness and author and friend, Hattie Holden-Edmonds. They were offering an incredible treat for a group of our students, a session that was to include well-being techniques and creative writing. A concept we had enjoyed from this brilliant pairing on their library visit last academic year, when they had worked with the outgoing Year 11 using Hattie's YA book, 'The Spectacular Vision of Oskar Dunkelblick'. I quickly set about getting permissions sorted for our Zoomers and we were ready to go!



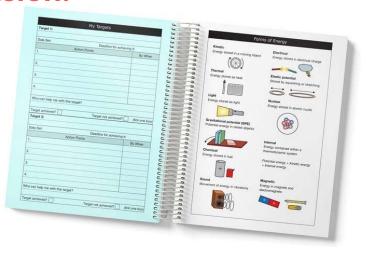
The session this time was virtual of course and began with us logged in to Zoom with some friendly chatter to start. We were then given breathing exercises whilst closing our eyes as Mary-Louise guided us to relax and feel centred. In this calm and relaxed state Hattie asked us to imagine we were in a garden, it could be a real or imagined place, but in it we were to find a table and on that table, to find some packets of seeds. We would select and pick up the packets based on what they represented to us, so a rose may mean kindness, an oak, strength, a lily, peace... We would take what we wanted most to nurture in, or for ourselves and then after carefully planting, add water and watch it grow.

We came back together, taking turns to describe and write down what we'd imagined in our garden, sharing the seed choices we had made for ourselves if we chose to. It had been a surprisingly easy state to enter for us, given the circumstances and was a real joy to be a participant. The students were fantastic and seemed to enjoy it as much as Mr Haverty and me; I was very impressed with their engagement! We are hugely grateful to Hattie and Mary-Lou and hope they'll come and work with us again, either in person or virtually as it would be great for the rest of our community to share this experience. Maybe you can try visiting your own virtual garden when you need to find some quiet time to take care of your mental health. Wishing you a healthy and relaxing summer.

### Student Leaders with Vision!

by Ms Ragusa, Student Leadership Coordinator

Our wonderful student leaders have really proved themselves to be a dedicated and professional team during virtual school, many of them have gone above and beyond and I am extremely proud. They conducted some vital student voice on planner designs and students' thoughts on virtual learning so far. The leaders communicated these back to the leadership team and ideas were implemented and changes made, this really demonstrates how students' voices are really important to the school and that they are heard.





Anti-bullying Our ambassadors initiated conversations regarding ways they could continue with the work they were doing in school. This has resulted in them conducting a weekly Golden Lions club, planning actions for their next Diana Award badge. They have been further educating themselves regarding Black Lives Matter so they can implement a plan for the whole school and have been busy generating a Student Leadership website and creating a LGBTQ+ group; thank you to Miss Di Stazio for her work with this group.



The Eco-committee also wanted to continue with their recycling project and their aim to reduce the use of single use plastic. This began with students re-purposing food packaging they had and creating new functional objects from them, thank you to Kati for making a myriad of items. The students were thinking bigger, they wanted to create a project that would reach the whole community. The bird project, led by George was formed. Everyone in the Compass community was invited to create a bird from a milk bottle, photograph it in their place of lock down then bring it into school on their return to make a wonderful installation and reminder of our Covid-19 times. It has been a pleasure to work with our student leaders for another successful year. Well done Leaders!

### **Chair of Governors' Message**

by Martin Deutz

Up to March, this was promising to be a bumper year, with so much effort put into our curriculum, teaching and enrichment, such hard work from our students, and the improvements to our facilities. Suddenly, this was halted. Our staff have done everything possible to keep the momentum going with our Virtual School, pastoral support and partial re-opening. The speed and quality of their response to the drastic changes are a mark of their professionalism, resourcefulness and humanity, and of the school's visionary leadership and drive. Our students have faced massive disruption and yet have persevered.

Our community has shown how the school's Values apply even – or perhaps especially – in the most extreme conditions.



We governors remain in close contact, reviewing the plans for September and discussing them with Mr Huntley and his colleagues. We are impressed at the great care and rigour with which they are planning a safe re-opening and the steps needed so that our students make up for lost time. Things may be very different, but we are confident that in the new academic year our community will strive to build on its achievements – both before and since the start of the emergency – and to fulfil our collective mission.

On behalf of the governors I thank our departing Year 11 students for their time with us and wish them the very best in the next stages of their journeys; I wish those students who will return a good summer break; and I hope that our staff — many of whom worked through Easter — will be able have a proper holiday, even if rather different from usual. Above all I thank Mr Huntley and all our staff for everything you have done and achieved in this uniquely difficult year.



Everyone's temperature is taken on arrival at physical school.

We are wholeheartedly committed to the school's role as a force for good in our community, and as an enabler of genuine, positive social change. In this spirit we embrace the school's work in challenging prejudice, intolerance and injustice, and will support the school as it develops and implements its response to the issues raised by 'Black Lives Matter'.



Our community and friends of our community came together and supported each other to ensure no one went without what they needed.



Students benefited from the kindness of those even loosely connected to Compass.



Equipment was distributed to families safely and efficiently.

Compass School is proud of our continued association with the Worshipful Company of Pewterers and Worshipful Company of Curriers. We thank them for their kind support of our community.





#### TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2021

#### Visit Compass School this Autumn!



#### **Open Evening**

Thursday 10th September

- 4.00-5.30pm & 6.00-7.30pm

#### **Open Mornings**

Wednesday 16th September

-9.00-10.30am

Monday 21st September

- 9.00-10.30am

Thursday 1st October

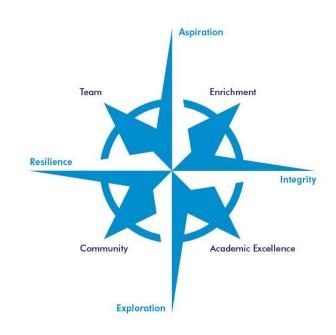
- 9.00-10.30am

Monday 5th October

- 9.00-10.30am

Monday 12th October

- 9.00-10.30am



Visits to the school will follow the latest government guidance on social distancing.

Please find up-to-date information about our admissions activities and events here: <a href="mailto:compass-schools.com/admissions/">compass-schools.com/admissions/</a>

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