

Our Journey



Compass School Southwark



A Cracking Christmas Fair! Integrity, Team and Community

We had our Community Christmas Fair on the 6th of December; there was an exciting range of activities including Christmas card and wreath-making stalls, live music, sports and even a pair of donkeys! Year 7 student, Ronnie sang beautifully as did the choir and Samuel, in Year 11 read a very moving self-penned poem, 'He's Just a Baby' about the child Jesus at the heart of the Christmas story. There were impressive prizes generously donated by our school governors and businesses in our local community; all the money raised will go towards Bede, Compass School enrichments and Time and Talents. Many thanks to everyone in our community for making it such a wonderful evening for all who attended, we very much look forward to another event like this in the summer term!

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Principal's Message

Marcus Huntley

It has been an extraordinary term at Compass School with so much for us to be proud of. We began the year celebrating our GCSE results which were a significant improvement on the previous year and reached national standards for the first time. This gave our learning community a real boost as we strive for even better in the coming year.

Some of my personal highlights of the term include the transformation of our outdoor facilities and seeing the impact on our pupils as they enjoy basketball and football before school, at break and during the newly extended 55-minute lunchtimes. A real plus for pupil well-being! Alongside these new facilities, the Greenhouse table tennis programme launched in September has engaged all year groups and has benefited pupils from Riverside and Southwark Park Primary schools also.



Our new format Parents' Evening for Year 10 and 11 went down very well as pupils and parents were greeted by a range of external partners as well as teachers; this enabled them to see the direct link between their current learning and the next stage of their journeys. Partners included White Hat Apprenticeships, local colleges and sixth forms, the RAF, Esteem and our school nurse. I am grateful for their support for our pupils.



The Christmas Fair was also a very special event and well supported by our local community. It was fantastic to connect with Ballers Football Academy, Time and Talents and Bede House as we celebrated the start of the festive season and raised over £600 for local charities. I am grateful for all those involved, including our guest donkeys who proved very popular!



Compass School was set up to provide excellent learning opportunities for our community, and, on what I called 'Super Wednesday', we showed just how passionate we are about living up to this goal. On the 4th of December, gifted and talented pupils visited Credit Suisse, Year 9 pupils on the Headstart Action programme performed at City Hall and practised their networking skills with a range of professionals, while another group on the King of Kings programme spent the first of 3 days at King's College London to get a taste of university life.

As you read through this edition of Our Journey, you'll find a school with a sense of confidence in our direction of travel and a determination to provide the best of opportunities for our pupils. I wish them, and our entire school community, a merry Christmas and happy New Year!



A note on the election!

Politics has certainly been at the forefront of our thoughts with what had been dubbed, the Brexit Election. While Compass School, in its own election, reflected Bermondsey's preference for a Labour candidate, the wider national vote favoured the Conservatives and their message centred around "getting Brexit done." The Christmas and the New Year are all about letting bygones be bygones, and I sincerely hope the year ahead will see renewed unity around our dinner tables and country as a whole.

Year 7 Make a Flying Start to The Year!

Residential to RAF Wittering

by Claire Hayward, Head of Year 7



In September, Year 7 students embarked on an overnight stay to RAF Wittering in Peterborough. The students were given a tour of the base and the opportunity to test out all the different vehicles that are used by the RAF.

A big shout out goes to Chau Chu who managed to climb into a military vehicle whose wheels were almost double her size! Students were also drilled on marching, made rockets and got to fly them into the air to see how well they were constructed as well as visiting the more exclusive parts of the RAF base.



Their overnight stay was completed with evening entertainment watching newly released, The Lion King and Angry Birds 2; this was enjoyed with a few tasty snacks too! All students thoroughly enjoyed themselves and presented themselves in an amazing way; they were a credit to their families, themselves and the school!



Compass Lectures

Flagtastic Vexillology!

Delivered by Year 8 Student, Reggie

On Tuesday the 15th of October, Compass students in Years 7, 8 and 9 were treated to a 25-minute talk from Year 8 student, Reggie Hudson on Vexillology. Reggie talked about the history of several different flags, the meanings behind them and touched upon how flags can be used to represent different ideas. Students learnt the meaning behind the French flag and its changes from a plain white flag into a royal flag, and the flag it is today.

He then spoke about how flags can carry a message to represent different ideologies. He showed how the Swastika represented the Nazi party and fascism but is also an ancient religious symbol from India which was used to represent divinity and spirituality. It ended with a quick recap and quiz before Reggie took some questions from the audience and everyone enjoyed some pizza! A huge well done to Reggie and to all the attending students for their exploration!



Student Voice

A Junior Prefect's Viewpoint

by Year 8 Student, Katie Lucas

Compass School is an amazing place to be. I am a prefect, an anti-bullying ambassador and a member of the eco-committee.

I feel that being a prefect is an enriching opportunity that a selected amount of people would enjoy. Being a prefect is a chance to see the school from a different perspective that students may not see in an everyday life. It gives students a chance to help improve areas in the community that the teachers may not see and think about. Being a prefect gives me the ability to become resilient and take control of many responsibilities that I may not have come across or had to deal with before.

Being an anti-bullying ambassador also gives me the chance to help the community become a better place by making people feel safer at school than they might have before.



The Lord Mayor's Show and Lunch Hosted by The Worshipful Company of Pewterers!

On the 9th of November, a small group of us were very fortunate to be the guests of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers at the Lord Mayor's Show in London. We met early and stood in the brisk November weather to watch the joyous parade; having some time to spare and an authority on the local area in our midst, we took the opportunity to see some sights Ms Kennedy had selected for us. These included the Guildhall, London Wall and a Cheapside tree of renown about which Wordsworth himself wrote a wonderful poem. A delightful lunch at Pewterers' Hall capped a truly memorable day for all!



The group then went past the Saddlers Livery company with their motto, 'Hold fast, sit sure' and on to St Vedast courtyard, a secret garden in Foster Lane. In the courtyard, open to the public in the daytime, you can find a bust made by Epstein, the famous sculptor, a Roman road and a stone artefact brought back from Egypt by someone on holiday with Agatha Christie. We went inside the beautiful Church of St Vedast where we saw some silver cups dating back to Elizabeth I. Lastly, we headed to the City Wall at Nobel street where we could see the remains of the tower at the corner of the Roman city wall.



Mrs Kennedy's Tour A Small Corner of The City

by Ms Kennedy

We started at Wood street where at the corner is the oldest Plane tree in the City. This tree inspired the poem 'Poor Susan' by William Wordsworth written in 1797. Susan moves from the countryside to the City to find work. A thrush singing in the tree on the corner of wood street reminds her of home and she dreams of the countryside before coming back to the reality of London.

This poem is etched in a stone outside an office building on the right as you walk along Wood Street, the first verse gives a flavour of the poem...

*"At the corner of Wood Street, when daylight appears,
There's a Thrush that sings loud, it has sung for three years.*

*Poor Susan has passed by the spot, and has heard
In the silence of morning the song of the Bird."*

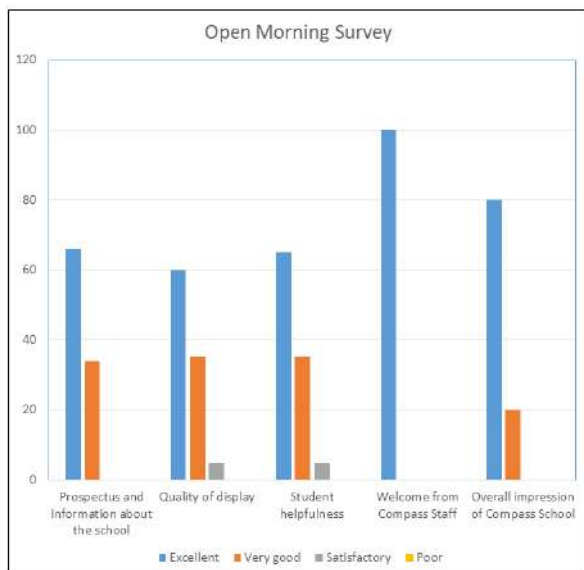


Community at Compass

By Ms Walkey-Williams

Community is one of our core values and the start of the 2019-20 academic year has exemplified this beautifully!

We were excited to welcome over 200 families to our open events. The overwhelmingly positive feedback that we received really shows how hard we, and the students, have worked to make Compass the truly special place that it is.



Lastly, Compass has joined Facebook! We are always looking for new ways to share with you all the exciting things that are happening here on a daily basis. We hope that you read our Twitter feed and our weekly bulletins. Now you can 'like' and 'follow' our Facebook page to keep up to date too!

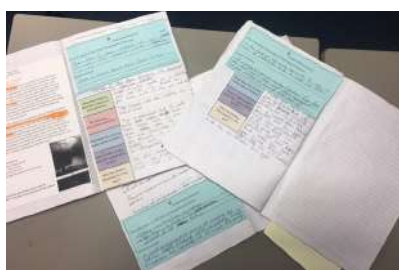
We have also been delighted to share our Greenhouse Table Tennis provision with the wider community, welcoming Year 6 students from Riverside and Southwark Park primary schools to be coached by our very own students, under the experienced guidance of Coach Simon.



Parent Book Look

by Ms Walkey-Williams

Half-term one saw the launch of our new parent Book Look, designed to involve our wider community in teaching and learning at Compass. In October, all Year 7 students were asked to take their books home to share the piece of work of which they are most proud with their parent or guardian.



Lots of students were really excited to show off their fabulous work, some even asking their siblings to make a comment on their work too! At Compass, we strongly believe that parental engagement is one of the biggest factors in a student's success and so, following the success of the Year 7 Book Look, please keep your eyes peeled for Year 7, 8 and 9 Book Looks!

Library News

by Ms Quigley

With longer lunchtimes, the library has been busier than ever this term. We have had Black History Month and National Poetry Day as well as National Library Week and the General Election to name just some events students have explored.



Please consider a good book as a present at any time of the year, please contact me for recommendations for any age group. Wishing everyone in the Compass community a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year!

In addition to these, there have been two external writing competitions with which to offer our students the chance to showcase their talents and they have not disappointed! Three of our students have been successful in having their poems accepted to be published in Young Writers' upcoming publication, 'Through Their Eyes'. Students were tasked with writing a poem through the eyes of another human or animal. They did exceptionally well, and we are very proud of the thoughtful efforts put forward by Katie Mitchell in Year 7, Lily-Jay James in Year 8 and Year 10 student, Sophie Hawtin; we look forward to seeing how they do as the competition progresses. Entries in the latest competition, 'Hunted' make promising reading, please look out for updates on both initiatives in the weekly bulletin and Twitter.



Peer Reading for Success!

by Ms Quigley

At the end of the first half-term of the year I invited specific students from Years 8, 9 and 10 to take part in a peer reading programme to work with a group of Year 7 students to improve their reading. The initiative has gone very well with students meeting in the library first thing on a Wednesday morning instead of reading in their Learning Families. I supervise these sessions and guide the older students to listen and prompt younger students in a way that will support and develop them as independent readers. This is a mutually beneficial arrangement that allows older students to feel a sense of community, continuity and pride. Additionally, this connects the year groups in a truly positive way and will be something that both

groups of students will carry forward to improve their both personal outlook and prospects. Well done to the Year 7 students and many thanks to; Archie Diamont, Nancy Dooling, Kati Phillips, Tin Huynh, Louis Price, Sekouba Kamara, Maurycy Gleba and Sophie Hawtin (Year 10), Jack Aspinall and Leon Leech (Year 9) and finally Betty Dixon (Year 8) for a mature approach to their own reading and in turn, their outlook and generosity towards younger students. They are all extolling the Compass values magnificently!



Enrichment!

by Mr May

Enrichment at Compass this term has been packed with new experiences, encounters and explorations. We're delighted to continue enabling our students to fly on trampolines with Mr Snoxell in the gym alongside our new Boxing enrichment under the careful and inspiring eye of Mr Wilson.



Mr Hoang has been doing an incredible job with our Greenhouse Table Tennis partnership while Ms Milburn takes our students through their ever so calm and focused Yoga programme. Meanwhile, Ms Quigley and Mr Osman continue to grow and develop our Leatherwork group with an exciting visit to the Leatherwork Department at Northampton University in the spring term.



We're looking forward to the summer production which is currently being developed with Ms Ellis and her Performing Arts group. Meanwhile Ms Field has created a wonderfully powerful choir who sang beautifully at the Christmas Fair and at our awards assembly on the final day of the term.



Mr Egbuchiem continues to weave his lyrical magic with our Compass rappers who are due to make their annual studio visit shortly. Mr Christie has taken the lead with our Duke of Edinburgh group, including preliminary visits to Southwark Park where students have been cooking and identifying trees in preparation for their Bronze expedition in the summer.



Mr Beard has been working with Debate Mate to develop our students' debating skills that will be of great value when they need to deploy them in the classroom and in life beyond Compass.



Ms Mohammed and Ms Melling have been putting our young journalists through their paces with the Burnet News Club.



Mr Huntley has been testing, challenging and provoking his small team of philosophers with Big Ideas whilst Ms Walkey Williams and Mr Simpson from First Stories are inspiring our young creative writers to draft their first pieces of work for publication at the end of the year.



Finally, Mr Thompson has been working with our young STEM students solving and creating responses to his scientific challenges. In all that's 16 adults, 251 students and 12 enrichments. We look forward to seeing what they will encounter, produce and achieve next term!

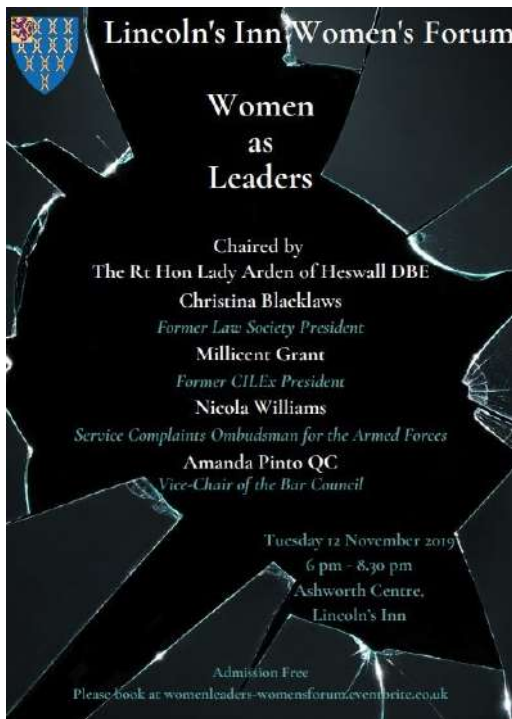
Lincoln's Inn Events

by Ms Quigley

In October and November, I had the pleasure to escort some Year 11 students to two fantastic events at Lincoln's Inn; the first was an event celebrating 100 years of women working in the legal profession and the second, to examine the routes and experiences of women as leaders.



The esteemed panel on both occasions, spoke eloquently about their personal experiences of life as female barristers, judges, authors and leaders. They described the road to reach the top of their professions and when describing their various routes to these pinnacles, they shared in common something they referred to as 'zigzagging'; none said their path had been simple or direct, they had all faced challenges. Two of the many qualities all of these women shared were perseverance and a real generosity of spirit; they all said that they had known difficulty, and all offered their wisdom and advice unreservedly to those assembled.



After each of these talks, there was a reception in the lovely surroundings of the Ashworth Centre. Whilst munching on beautiful canapés and sipping sparkling elderflower, Shekinah, Shanti and Shanelle asked intelligent questions of the amazing panelists who flocked to speak to them as the youngest audience members at each event. The panel were incredibly impressed with the girls' conduct and interest in careers in the law; as a result of these impressive interactions the students were invited to return to have lunch at Lincoln's Inn to include a tour of the Chancery.



In addition to their own invitations, two of the panel and two further barristers offered to visit our school and give their time to talk to the rest of our students. I also had the chance to set in motion plans for a mock trial to take place at Compass in the New Year. The girls were an absolute credit to us all and they had a fantastic time to boot; upon leaving the last event, when asked if she enjoyed herself, Shanti said, 'I loved it!'



History Trip to Ypres

by Mr Beard

On Friday the 1st of November, 35 students set out from school at 5.00am to spend the day learning about WWI. The journey started with a coach ride to Ypres, an area in Belgium that witnessed heavy fighting during The Great War.



This was the largest cemetery seen on the day and contains a mass grave of over 25,000 bodies which had been gathered from the surrounding fields in the years that followed the end of the war.



First stop was Essex Farm Cemetery, the smallest graveyard students would see on the day but one that still contained over 1000 graves. This graveyard is the burial location for one of the youngest soldiers of WWI who was buried at the age of 15 after being killed in action. This was particularly poignant for the many students on the trip who are the same age. This was also the location that inspired the poem 'In Flanders Fields' as the author John McCrae noticed how quickly the poppies grew on the grave of a close friend.

Next stop was the Passchendaele Memorial Museum which took students on a complete journey of all engagements in the area during the years of the war. It also contained replica trenches that allowed students to see the progression in their development once both sides realised this war would take many years to end.



Lunch was eaten at an impressive towering Canadian memorial to remember the victims of the first gas attack to take place during WWI.

Students then visited Langemark Cemetery, which is one of four German cemeteries in the area (compared to over one hundred Allied cemeteries). Students mentioned the contrast between the two cemeteries, with Langemark being less well-kept and welcoming.

The final cemetery of the day was called Tyne Cot. This is the world's largest Commonwealth cemetery and contained over 11,000 graves. This was by far the largest in size by area but also the best kept. Callum Brown commented on how peaceful and tranquil the area felt.

The trip ended by visiting the town of Ypres which was destroyed during the 5 battles that took place during WWI. Students were given some free time to explore the area, try some local food and buy world-famous Belgian chocolates. Overall, students had an incredible day and came back wanting to go into even more detail about the history behind WWI and the area we visited.

Year 7 Settles In!

by Ms Hayward Head of Year 7

In September 2019 our new cohort of Year 7 students joined us ready to start their new adventure at secondary school. After the first few tiring weeks getting used to moving from classroom to classroom, changing teachers every lesson and making new friends, the Year 7s settled into a new routine and eased into life at Compass School.



Well done to all the students who have been working hard in lessons, collecting Compass Coins for displaying school values, furiously collecting House Points and gaining certificates.



Year 7 students at RAF Wittering

A huge congratulations goes to Nathan Bamgbose who currently has the most House Points in Year 7 with 141 closely followed by Greta Pezzolato with 140. Students need to keep collecting those House Points so that they can show how amazing they are!



STEM trip to Imperial College London in December



Year 7 overall have made a great start to their time at Compass and I look forward to continuing the journey with them as the year progresses.

Year 8 Impresses!

by Mr Haverty, Head of Year 8

Year 8 is such a vital year in helping to shape a student's time at school. It will not be long before this cohort must make some big decisions and choose their GCSE options. I am most proud as their Head of Year of the huge amount of Year 8 students who have already achieved more than 200 House Points; congratulations to them all! A shout out in particular to Mati Rios Gasiorowski, who is sitting at the top of the charts for the whole school with an incredible 279 House Points! I have also been very happy to see both boys and girls performing amazingly well in futsal matches against other schools, shout outs to Lucy Lucas and Mecca Maxime Samuels for displaying not only excellent skills on the pitch but also playing with real integrity.



Year 8 trip to Credit Suisse in December.

Year 9 Steps Up!

by Ms Di Stazio, Head of Year 9

It has been a rapid and intense first term for Year 9, but they've made it! It is their first GCSE year and students are collectively building a culture of resilience; every single one of them in their very own interesting and unique way has had a wonderful start to the year.



They have had some great success and have been doing very well in table tennis. Many Year 9 students competed in a tournament at our Christmas fair earlier this month. Special mention goes to Oscar Malinowski, Frankie Nazer and Teddie Hitchcock for their exemplary representation of the Year 9 cohort during their matches.



Year 9 students participating in the Headstart programme



Students are beginning to appreciate the demands of a GCSE year and are working towards building a strong foundation for their future qualifications.



Congratulations to Juliet Asamoah for being assigned the role of prefect, I'm sure she will do very well in carrying out her duties.

I look forward to seeing the progress of all students in the coming year!

2020 Vision

by Mr Egbuchiem, Head of Years 10 and 11

They say you do not know the strength of a tea bag until you leave it in hot water. Well, at the risk of mixing my metaphors, it is fair to say some students have well and truly woken up and smelled the coffee!



2020 is upon us and we want to have that clear 20/20 vision so we can reach the goals to which we aspire. Let us all continue to encourage and support each other, as we are all in this together.



Two of our Year 10 students met up for lunch, to discuss the future of TFL, and how John Lewis can make even more money!

Term one was always going to be difficult, we did not expect anything less. This is all part of the process, for staff, for students, and for parents.



Year 11 listening to Amie Buhari of the Hebe Foundation talk about daily habits and long-term strategies, in respect of their GCSE and Post 16 planning.



Mr Skerving teaching algebra to his fellow Year 11 students...



There have been tears and jeers, piles of smiles, shakedowns and breakdowns but in it all, one thing is apparent; we are growing and moving towards our end goal.

Wishing everyone a restful holiday, in readiness and excitement for the next term!

Year 10 Work Experience

by Mr Egbuchiem

Between Monday 11th November and Friday 15th November, Compass School was very quiet in the absence of all its Year 10 pupils. Instead of coming to school, every Year 10 pupil participated in a week of work experience and gained valuable insight into the world of employment.



Pupils on work experience with Grosvenor Estates began the week with breakfast at their Mayfair offices.

Pupils worked in a huge variety of sectors including law, banking, architecture, engineering, construction, advertising, education, childcare, hospitality, transportation, administration and service provision. The employers gave glowing reviews about how well students performed during their placements, and some have even been invited to return after completing their GCSEs.

Roberts Umbrasko learnt lots of new skills during his placement: 'Work experience allowed me to understand the true hard work that goes into the landscaping industry. Because of my work, I am now able to completely remodel a garden!'



A big well done to Year 10 for being so professional, conscientious and eager to learn.

Goldman Sachs Employees Mentoring Employability Day

by Mr Hoang



Select Compass table tennis team members attended the exclusive, Greenhouse Sports mentoring session. They were subjected to 1-1 interviews, techniques and talks to encourage their drive and ambitions. In return, the students gave the Goldman Sachs employees 1-1 table tennis coaching!

Construction Youth Career Trip to Elephant Park

by Ms Di Stazio

The construction industry is expanding each year, recruiting young people for a variety of fields within this sector.



This is something that the Year 9 students working with Construction Youth and Lend Lease UK now know very well. This careers-focused trip to Elephant Park at Elephant and Castle was an extremely productive one for them and positively enriched their future engagement with the world of work. A special mention to Leon Leach who was actively engaged throughout. The providers of the workshops were very impressed with our students. Well done to all!

Headstart Action Showcase

by Ms Di Stazio

This was an exciting day for Year 9 students participating in the Headstart Action programme!



After weeks of rehearsing, they presented their projects at City Hall to the invited audience which included Mr Huntley, their parents and the professionals supporting the event.



Starting with *Mr Stereotype*, students beautifully executed raps and drum sessions related to the most common clichés of society; this was a great way for them to put forward their ideas regarding social issues and feel that they were heard.



Overall this challenge gave these students opportunities outside their comfort zone; this was especially true of the last session where they were interviewed by the assembled professionals. They did very well and left a great impression! They should feel extremely proud of their excellent exploration!

Music lessons

by Mr May

Compass is delighted to have started regular weekly piano lessons for some of our students this term. A selection of girls and boys from every year group make their way to the newly christened music room every Tuesday; for half an hour they have one-to-one piano lessons with musician and composer Dian Gasper.

Dian is a professional Jazz musician and works as Young Warriors Co-ordinator with award-winning Jazz company, Tomorrow's Warriors. Dian brings a fresh, engaging and inspirational energy to teaching music. Whilst students learn their essential notes, scales and chords, Dian also gives them a broader musical education at the same time.

These music lessons are a great addition to the cultural life our school and we look forward to hearing what our young pianists produce in the future.



Black History Month

by Ms Sharif

Black History Month is an annual observance that commemorates the history and achievements of members of the Black community.



Like many schools, Compass celebrated Black History Month throughout October. To kick-start the celebration, some of our Year 10 and 11 students attended a talk on 'Black Scientists and Inventors'. The talk was a fascinating run-down of everyday appliances developed by Black inventors as well as phenomenal scientific achievements that have gone largely unnoticed. Some areas covered during the talk included: African castles, computer games, vaccinations, optometry and the real Black history in the 2018 Black Panther movie!



Students enjoyed an assembly where they were introduced to the Kora, a West African long-necked harp/lute. Some students also had a workshop on reggae in Britain. This was to understand how reggae music is embedded in the Black experience and how it contributed to other music forms.



We continue to help students to remember and celebrate the message of Black History Month for the other eleven months of the year.

Hidden Figures

by Ms Clapham

MATHS MOVIE NIGHT

*"Genius has no race.
Strength has no gender.
Courage has no limit."*

This Black History Month, join the Maths Department as we watch Hidden Figures.

Wednesday 16th October 3.50pm in G103
Free of charge
(Free popcorn too!)

Sign up on the sheet on the Maths Office door if you want to come. Everybody welcome!

On Wednesday the 16th of October, several Key Stage 3 students joined the Maths Department and other members of staff for a screening of Hidden Figures.

Together, we watched the story of Katherine Johnson, Mary Jackson and Dorothy Vaughan during their time working at NASA when both racial and sexual discrimination were rife. The mathematical skills of these women were so crucial in the Space Race they were nicknamed the 'human computers' as they were used to check the work of computers in the 1950s.

The screening of Hidden Figures complemented other activities taking place across Compass School in the celebration of Black History Month.



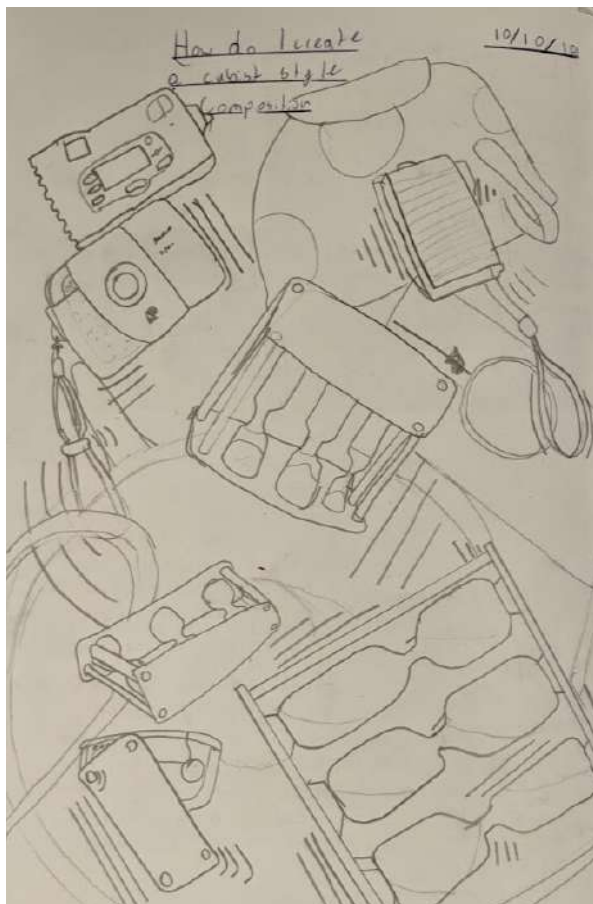
Art at Compass

by Ms Ragusa

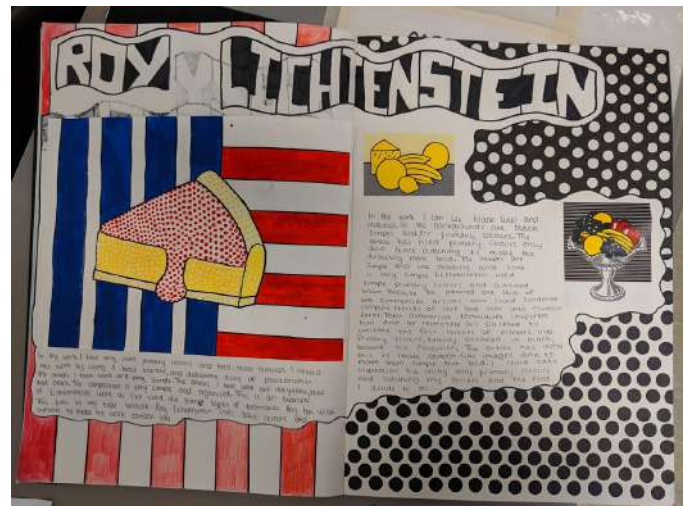
This term Year 7 students have focused on drawing techniques. They were initially introduced to the formal elements in Art and Design and started with simple line drawings using different techniques to create a tonal grid composition that encompassed all techniques.



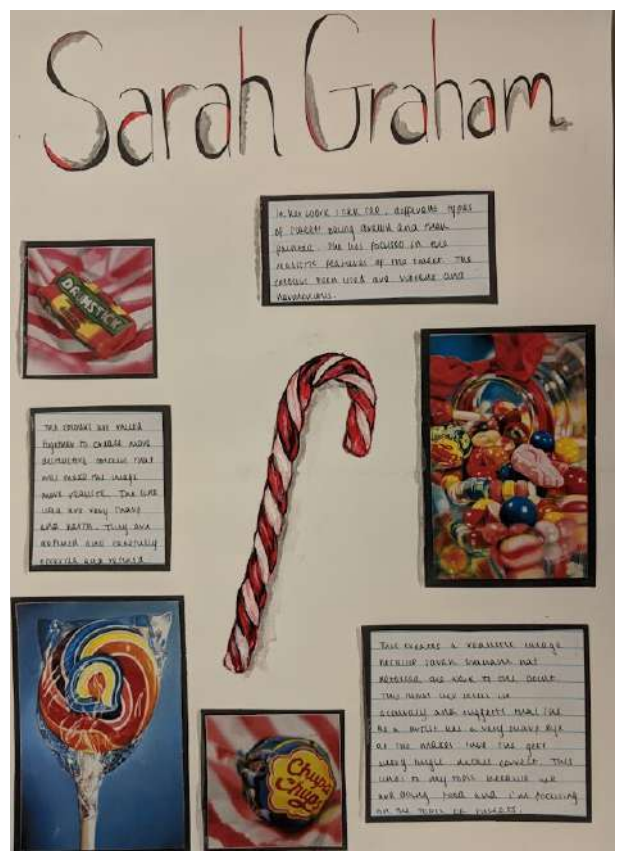
Year 8 completed a still life project where they focused on the Cubist movement. Students drew objects from a variety of angles and viewpoints which they then developed into a mixed-media final piece.



Year 9 students were introduced to the GCSE structure. Students focused on developing their drawing skills using a variety of media. Most recently they created their own recordings informed by artists.



Year 10 students in both Art and Graphics have completed a mini project. They will begin their sustained project in January, both projects combined are worth 60% of their GCSE. Art students worked on a food project whilst Graphics students had a brief to create packaging for a new confectionery brand.



Year 11 students also worked on their mini project, this was in response to a tip to the British Museum, some amazing pieces have been created but you will have to wait until their exhibition in June to view the work!

GCSE Drama Performances

by Mr May

In October, fifteen GCSE drama students presented their first pieces of examined practical work at our pop-up theatre in the sports hall. Students produced four individual plays reflecting and responding to a variety of stimuli.

Bethany, Freddie, Keely and Josephus told the story of two boys whose lives, ambitions and choices crossed paths on the football pitch with consequences that would change their lives forever. Lilly Mae, Marko and Niamh created a play that dealt with the challenging issues of dementia and how society has the potential to change our past. Ben, Christian, Conrad and Lora were inspired by the founder of psychoanalysis, Sigmund Freud and told the story of a young man with a split-personality disorder. Finally, Izzy, Lacey, James and Samuel told a beautiful story of a young boy with autism who chose to take care of Earth's remaining animals and forgo the love of his caring family.



It was a great evening showcasing our emerging talent in Performing Arts. Thank you to staff, friends and families for supporting these talented young people with their first pieces of public practical work!

First Story with Poet Dan Simpson

by Ms Walkey-Williams



This term students in Years 7, 8 and 9 have been taking part in a fantastic enrichment opportunity called First Story; they have recently welcomed their guest teacher, the acclaimed poet, Dan Simpson!

First Story encourages students to think about the world around them and write about this, in their own authentic voice. So far, students have enjoyed writing six-word stories, Insta-poems and short descriptions of themselves.

Now that Dan has arrived to work with them, the students are working on a range of different writing techniques and approaches to build their confidence before they embark on an epic task: writing their very own anthology!

Students will be designing every aspect of their anthology, from its name, to the content and they are itching to get started; 'As Yet Untitled' (as they are currently calling it) will be available for you all to enjoy in the summer term!

FIRST STORY

OUR VISION AND MISSION

We're working towards a society that encourages and supports young people from all backgrounds to write creatively for pleasure and agency. We believe there is dignity and power in being able to tell your own story and that writing can transform lives. Our programmes equip young people with the skills and confidence to tell their stories well and to thrive in education and in life.

CREATIVE WRITING DEVELOPS A UNIQUE MIX OF SKILLS AND ATTITUDES TO SUPPORT LEARNING AND PREPARE YOUNG PEOPLE TO THRIVE

The craft of writing fosters experimentation, risk and resilience. It cultivates curiosity and play, while teaching discipline and persistence. Writing regularly promotes mental health and wellbeing, as much as it furthers literacy and attainment.

Table Tennis

by Mr Hoang (Coach Simon)

October Half-Term Table Tennis Training at Compass



The Compass table tennis team spent their October half-term holiday training for five hours per day. They showed great commitment and discipline throughout, clearly demonstrating their passion for table tennis!

Female Only Table Tennis Training Camp



Also during the half-term, a select group of our female Compass table tennis team members joined female table tennis players from across London to train at Greenhouse Sports Centre. The aim of this was to encourage female participation not just in table tennis but in every sport! Well done to all the girls for travelling and training during their holidays.

Table Tennis at the Christmas Fair



Table Tennis Coaching at Open Events



Members of Compass table tennis team hosted, demonstrated and coached the prospective students at every Compass Open Event this term; their friendliness and approachability made everyone feel very welcome. Students actively engaged with the parents while the rest of the team coached the youngsters. The team was rewarded with a well-deserved Pizza Party after the final Open Evening!

Primary School Table Tennis Coaching

Compass table tennis team made up of students from Years 7-9 coach primary school students from Riverside and Southwark Park every week at Compass. They have been doing a brilliant job of imparting their skills to these young visitors; I would like to congratulate the team for great work on their leadership and communication skills this term.



There was a fantastic table tennis demonstration by Head Coach Simon Hoang and Head Coach Helder Rodrigues-Neves.

The highlight was watching them play with a frying pan! All the children that helped, worked incredibly hard and focused for the whole 6-hour training and tournament session. Coach Simon was delighted with their efforts! Very well done to all!

Invest in Our Champions Event at Spitalfields Market

by Mr Hoang (Coach Simon)



In November, the Compass table tennis team met Team GB Olympic Netballer, Ama Agbeze at a special event in Spitalfields Market.

They were there to demonstrate the impact Greenhouse Sports is having on their lives particularly pertaining to social, thinking, emotional and physical skills; this in addition to coaching and playing table tennis with Ama and anyone else who chose to join in!

The students were great ambassadors for both Compass School and Greenhouse Sports.

They did well in overcoming their fears to engage with members of the public, corporate partners and even doing Sky Sports Interviews! We'll let you know the broadcast date of these once it has been confirmed.



Compass School Sports This Term

by Mr Flowers

I would like to begin by saying a huge well done to every student who has represented the school so well this term. There are numerous upcoming fixtures in the New Year including badminton, handball and volleyball tournaments as well as the completion of the London Futsal Leagues and further basketball tournaments.

Futsal Stars



It has been a busy term for our respective teams, with some excellent results and positive experiences gained for all teams so far. We have had our first ever futsal fixtures for both our KS3 boys' and girls' teams who have adapted well to the more technical pressurised nature of futsal. The girls have impressed particularly being undefeated in their first two matches, winning their first game 4-1 versus Sedgely School and coming from behind to draw 1-1 with Bacon's College. Our Year 7 boys have had their first taste of fixtures in an all-day tournament where they showed excellent battling spirit, losing to the eventual winners and drawing their 4 other matches. This is an excellent defensive platform on which to build.



Basketball Brilliance

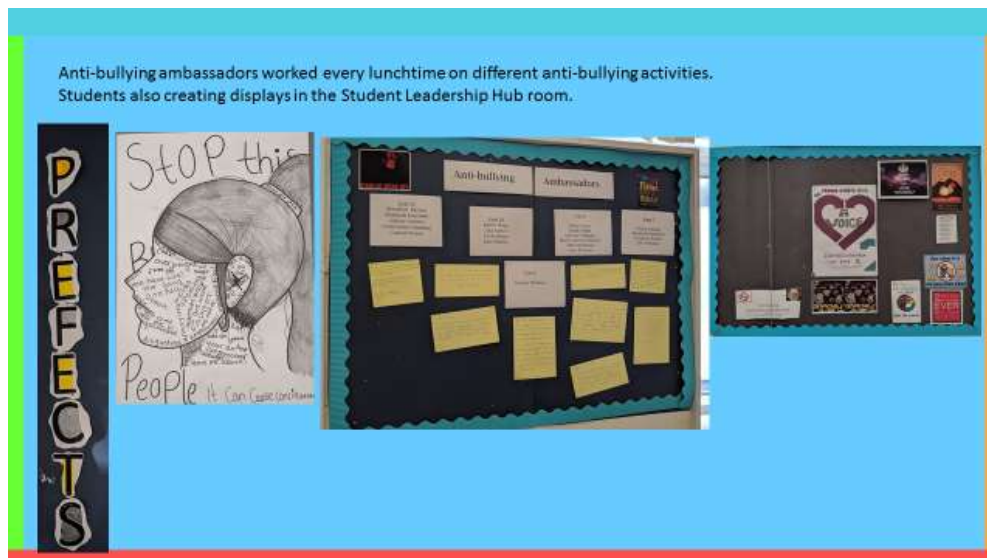


Compass students have really enjoyed participating in the Southwark Basketball League this term. Our KS3 boys have shown excellent resilience in their first fixtures trying hard and showing excellent improvements in their game awareness; their attitude and progress have been excellent, and we are looking forward to watching their first win. The KS4 boys' team have been very successful; they qualified out of their group after two strong wins against Charter School and Harris Academy, finishing runners up to Kingsdale Foundation School. This qualified them for the semi-finals of the Southwark League, where after a very slow start, the boys battled back well; unfortunately, they were unable to make up the deficit, losing out to eventual winners and Southwark champions, St Thomas the Apostle School. Compass finished in third place overall after picking themselves up and dominating Kingsdale, winning the game 53-28! The boys had an outstanding tournament and we are immensely proud to say they are third best team in the borough. We look forward to seeing our basketball teams' progress in 2020!

Anti-bullying Ambassadors

by Ms Ragusa

We have been delighted to develop our team of Anti-bullying ambassadors this term. Our new and existing ambassadors created a great programme for Anti-bullying Week, a special mention goes to Kati Phillips who led on the promotion of this.



There were daily activities during Learning Family Time and lunch break which had great student participation. Our ambassadors demonstrated great commitment and collaboratively developed ideas that will strengthen our anti-bullying programme for the rest of the school year and beyond.

H.P.A. Parent Workshop

by Mr Beard

On Monday the 14th of October, 30 parents of our HPA students (higher prior attainers) from Years 7,8 and 9 attended a 90-minute workshop provided by Potential Plus. Parents discussed what traits their child shows and how this relates to their above average ability; they learnt techniques to help further their children's learning at home and how to best support their time at school.




Parents left with lots of quick easy tips that they wanted to try out with their child at home.

Chair of Governors' Message

by Martin Deutz

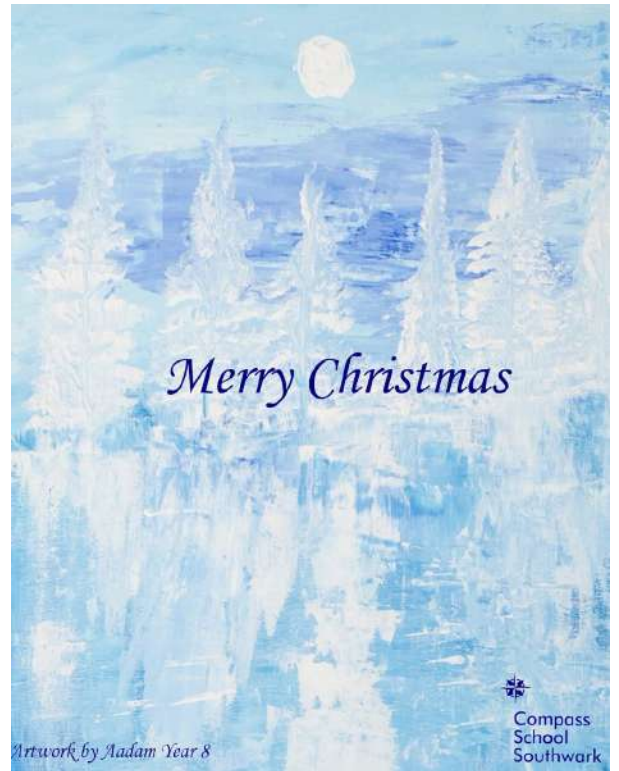
We aim to equip our students with the insight, confidence and aspiration which are central to the shared vision we have for our community. This term's programme of activities is surely the most varied, interesting and inspiring ever. In unison with the governors I thank everyone at Compass School who helps develop, manage and run these activities, for going above and beyond to make our vision a reality. I'll mention just two developments.

I'm very pleased that sports teams are now representing the school in competition with our neighbours and very proud of how much they have already achieved. I'm also delighted that for the first time we have prefects; I wish them well in their role and look forward to hearing from them next term about how they are getting on.

<p><u>Year 10</u> Kirsty Hong Lisa Saytee Cayla Henry Kati Phillips</p>		<p><u>Year 11</u> Brooklyn Barton Shekinah Kayembe Gabriel Adeniyi Christopher Denning Conrad Pearce</p>
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Alongside the activities and events reported in this issue of Our Journey, I'd like to celebrate the concentration and commitment to learning that I've seen among our students. This would not be possible without the care with which our staff take in course-planning, lesson preparation, and the tailoring of lesson delivery so that all students benefit equally - making every lesson a stepping-stone in each student's journey toward their destination.

I'd also like to celebrate the hard work that the Admin team puts into running the wide range of functions upon which the entire Compass community depends. Again on behalf of the governors, I thank the staff for all that you do for our students and for the School, and I celebrate the amazing energy and positivity that is such a hallmark of our staff, our students and our whole community. It only remains for me to wish everyone a very happy time over the Christmas holidays and a wonderful New Year!



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.





Compass School Southwark

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Integrity
Exploration
Resilience

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- ✓ One of the most improved schools in the country
- ✓ Progress above the national average
- ✓ Attainment above the national average