

ACS PARENTS NEWS

Monday 4 February - Friday 8 February - Issue #17



Photo: Mr Gerard McKenna BSc(Hons) NPQH

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a tremendous honour to welcome Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, to our school on Tuesday. The Duchess visited us to find out more about our wellbeing programmes supporting our students and teachers as part of Mental Health Week 2019. The feedback from our students has been wonderful – they are so proud of our school. There are many great photographs of the visit in this edition, on our website and on twitter.

Thank you to all the parents who met with teachers during Year 9 Parents Evening on Thursday. We estimate there was a 90% parent turnout – thank you for your support.

Finally, please make sure that your child completes all their homework activities over half term. This is particularly important for Year 11 and Year 13 students in the run up to their examinations. Please note that we will be issuing personal intervention timetables for Year 11 and Year 13 students for special half term revision classes.



HRH The Duchess of Cambridge visits Alperton Community School

On Tuesday 5 February we had the privilege to welcome to our school HRH the Duchess of Cambridge. During her visit, the Duchess joined a round table discussion with our senior teachers about students' readiness and teacher welfare. The Duchess then took part in our Random Acts of Kindness club, an extracurricular club that aims to enhance the general wellbeing of our staff and students.

Before departing, the Duchess dropped in to an art and textiles class to see how the school uses art to enhance children's confidence and wellbeing. Her Royal Highness was very impressed with our A Level student Shaquille and seeing the drawings he does in his spare time, aside from his A Level portfolio, the Duchess said: "This is what you can do if you don't use social media. Honestly, it's really, really incredible."



Safer Internet Week 2019



Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. Please [click here](#) to access a range of resources for parents and carers.

Youth Travel Ambassadors impress judges with their pitch and public speaking skills

Congratulations to our Youth Travel Ambassadors (YTA) for last week's Campaign Junction pitch. The judges were amazed by the quality of our students' presentation and their confidence with public speaking. The students were able to answer some complex questions from the panel on the spot. They also demonstrated an advanced level of knowledge and engagement in these travel issues.

We look forward to seeing how their campaigns develop. To find out more about the YTA program, please check our website.



Author Nikesh Sukla visits Alperton Community School



On Friday 8 February 100 students attended an inspiring talk given by author Nikesh Shukla. He spoke about what motivated him to write his first novel for teenagers, *Run, Riot* - a thriller set in real time, which tells the

story of a close-knit group of friends who discover corruption has infiltrated the tower block where they live. Talking about his uncle, who was the first person to bring a racial discrimination case to court in the UK, Nikesh impressed upon students the importance of community and standing up for what you believe in - 'Your voice is important. You do deserve to be heard, you do deserve to take up space.' His talk was followed by a book signing in the library, during which students had a chance to get their copy of *Run, Riot* signed and meet Nikesh.

R

READY

R is for **'READY, SET, GO!'** We all know those famous words when it's the start of any race to the finish line. Most sports personalities we know exhibit being ready by mentally and physically getting prepared. They know that being ready allows them to grab every opportunity, but also recognise that each opportunity could make the difference between completing and winning their best race. Of course, in school we are not always starting from the same block. This means that we are not always going to reach the same finish line nor at the same time. Nevertheless, if we can always be ready, we can be assured that we will be successful in reaching our goals and finishing our own individual race to a prosperous future.

Words of the Week



Y8 Options Evening

Our Year 8 Options Evening will take place on Thursday 14 February at our Ealing Road site.

Your child will have access to the best information, advice and guidance before they take the important step to choosing their options for the first time in year 8. We will ensure your child is best prepared for year 9 and beyond and for their education and future employment.

Plenty of information will be shared at the event and you will have an opportunity to ask questions directly to the teachers of the various subjects. This will be especially important for subjects which are new to your child and will be studying them for the very first time.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

8	Thursday 14 February - Year 8 Year 8 Options Evening
ALL	18 February - 22 February All students - Half Term
9	Thursday 07 March - Year 9 Year 9 Options Evening
ALL	Tuesday 2 April - All students Celebration Assemblies
11	Wednesday 3 April - Year 11 Year 11 Targeted Parents Evening
ALL	08 April - 22 April All students - Easter Holiday