

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

As we come to the end of the examination period for GCSE, BTEC and A Level, I would like to say 'Well Done' to all involved.

I am immensely proud of how our students approached and applied themselves to their exams and, thankful for all the support that has been given to them by parents, carers and staff. I have seen so many of you go 'above and beyond' to ensure our students have had the very best preparation for the exams.

I look forward to sharing and celebrating the success in August.

Gary Smith

YEAR 7 FILM WELCOME VIDEO

Some of our Year 7 students have been busy filming a welcome video for Year 6 students joining us in September.



Check out the new video here:
www.basildonacademies.org.uk/transition

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Year 10 Progress Review Day:
22nd June 2018

Year 11 Leavers Assembly:
28th June 2018 - 8.30-10.30am

**Open Evening -
Lower & Upper Academy:**
Thursday 5th July 2018 - 5-7pm

YEAR 8 ENJOY ENRICHMENT VISITS

Our Year 8 students recently experienced a day visiting three of the most popular museums in London; The British Museum, The Natural History Museum and The Science Museum.

The purpose of this visit was to develop the student's cultural capital, broaden their horizons and enhance their problem solving skills.

"I really enjoyed my day at the Science Museum, the interactive games were brilliant. The RAF Typhoon flight simulator experience seemed very life like."
David Oyeneye

"The Science Museum was really cool & futuristic. It's fascinating to see technology we could all be using in the future."
Jamie Bush

"There are periods of History I find really exciting and found the African displays in The British Museum really interesting, in particular the ancient statues and weapons."
Angel Buchanan

"The British Museum was full of intriguing artefacts. It was amazing to see a letter carved on stone that was over 2,000 years old. The visit made me want to learn more about how things were discovered and invented."
Catia De Brito Abdala Hortencio



Catia reading about the ancient letter carved from stone.



Jack Sharp investigates 5th century burial customs.



Jay, Sophie, Daniela, Jack & John at The British Museum.



Dominykas taking part in an energy sources quiz.



Toby looking at Roman hunting weapons.



Angel looking at animals that have been preserved.

"When I first stepped inside The Natural History Museum, the first thing I saw was a skeleton of a Blue Whale, it was really impressive. Even the coach journey was enjoyable; we saw lots of famous landmarks including the London Eye, the Tower of London and Big Ben, which is currently being repaired."
Scander Bouslama

UPPER ACADEMY RECEIVES YOUNG CARERS BRONZE AWARD

The Upper Academy recently achieved the Bronze Award in recognition for the work our staff do to support young carers in education.

The programme helps schools improve outcomes for young carers and celebrates good practice through the Young Carers in Schools Award.

The Lower Academy was accredited with the same award last year and staff from both sites are actively working towards the Silver accreditation.

Headteacher, Gary Smith, commented; "Congratulations to Mrs Haynes and Ms Phillips who have worked hard to enable our young carers to have access to valued support, enrichment and recreation through after school clubs."



"The Basildon Academies are proud to have established support for identified students and we have continued to promote young carers and recognise new young carers." Mrs Haynes

If you, or a family member, needs support please contact Mrs Haynes, Young Carers Operational Lead, at dhaynes@basildonacademies.org.uk. All contact will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Good luck to Lower Academy students Shaun Oliver & Freddie Cornish, who have entered their design to the Blue Peter Flying High Competition. The winning design will be printed onto the helmet of a Red Arrows Pilot.



STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM WEST HAM UNITED MENTORING PROGRAMME

The Basildon Academies has become the first secondary school in the country to have students participate in a mentoring programme run by West Ham United's principal charity, the Moore Family Foundation.

Since its inception 3 years ago, the Foundation has been engaging thousands of pupils from primary schools across East London and Essex. Part of the development plan is to reach out to secondary school students, with the Lower Academy becoming the first to benefit from this initiative.

The main objectives of the programme are to help give students the best possible opportunity to fulfil their potential, raise their self-confidence and increase resilience.

Foundation Mentor, Timothy Lukwago, who has been working with our Year 9's during the last few months, commented; "Through regular one to one sessions and different types of workshops, we provide students with mentoring and extra academic support. Because each young person is different, we set personalised goals with the overall aim of raising their aspirations and to hopefully achieve the things they set out to do."



Lewis, Ruhul & Colby working with Moore Family Foundation Mentor Timothy Lukwago.



Year 9 student Lewis Bates has been finding the experience motivating; "Timothy, our mentor, has posed some really challenging questions, for example, he asked us whether some aspects of human behaviour is determined by nature or nurture. Questions like that help us to look at things from another perspective and understand another person's point of view."

Colby Nicol has also been enjoying his mentoring sessions commenting; "I am learning a lot from Timothy. He talks about his life experiences and upbringing, which I can really relate to. We have worked on interesting projects, presented our research and then debated topics."

Another student who has benefited from the programme is Ruhul Miah; "Taking part in the Moore Family Foundation programme is developing my social skills and building up my confidence ready for the business and workplace environment. It's helping me achieve my aspirations."

RESPECT AMBASSADORS ELECTED

Congratulations to Year 10 student Jennifer Brooker who has been elected as Lead Respect Ambassador for the Upper Academy; congratulations also to Year 11 student Aspen Rajack who becomes our Deputy Respect Ambassador.

Both students were elected by fellow Respect Ambassadors.

All of our ambassadors meet regularly and help to form a supportive environment for other students.



Newly elected Ambassadors Aspen Rajack & Jennifer Brooker.

LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ

Myself, along with other members of The Basildon Academies Sixth Form, are proud to have taken part in the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project, run by The Holocaust Educational Trust.

At the start of the project we had the amazing opportunity to meet Steven Frank, a Holocaust survivor, who told us about his life and the horrible moments he experienced as a child during World War 2. We learnt that the exclusion of Jews started by making them carry ID that showed their religion. Their treatment over time became more severe as they weren't allowed to have contact with anyone other than those of the same religion, being forced to wear a yellow star on their clothes as identification.

The week after meeting Steven, we visited Auschwitz in Poland. Whilst standing in the picturesque town square, we were handed historic photo's showing Jewish people who had arrived in Auschwitz just before they were taken to the concentration and extermination camps. From the pictures you could tell that most of them had nice clothing, bags, hats and accessories, which clearly shows that they had no idea where they were being sent.

Our next destination was Auschwitz I, a camp where prisoners were made to work or were killed when they couldn't work anymore. Going through the barracks and seeing so many personal belongings had a big impact on me. There were shaving utensils which shows that even if they had a rough time they were still trying to keep themselves clean and presentable. The most emotional part was the gas chamber, the inside of it looked very depressing and morbid.

The tour continued to Auschwitz II-Birkenau, an expansive site. Each individual barrack accommodated 800-1000 Jews in an area designed to originally house just 52 horses. During a special ceremony, a rabbi sang to us in Hebrew. I can't explain in words how much I loved and was moved by his voice, even if I couldn't understand the language.



"Finally seeing what I have heard so much about didn't prepare me for the impact that I received. Only seeing it can explain it." Kurtis Pope - Sixth Former

"The trip was an emotional, yet educational experience. It is definitely a once in a lifetime opportunity, which I would recommend to other's."

Chloe Eley - Sixth Former

Our project group have met since to reflect on our experiences and discuss how we can share our knowledge with other people and make sure this never happens again. Having the opportunity to visit Auschwitz and listening to a Holocaust survivor is a once in a lifetime experience which I will never forget.

Rares Turcu - Sixth Former

YEAR 9 CATERING EXAM

Well done to our Year 9 students who recently prepared, cooked and served 2 course meals to an excellent standard for their Unit 6 BTEC Catering exam.



Left to right: Mr Stavrinides, Cerys Houldsworth, Kai Barnes, William Evans, Ronnie Bici, Taite Greenland, Keisha Morey, Kieran Upfold & Mrs Randall.

"I really like cooking and want to become a chef in a top restaurant".
Cerys Houldsworth - Year 9

"I love Catering lessons because we get to discover new and different techniques for cooking." Taite Greenland - Year 9

YEAR 10 ACHIEVE BRILLIANT CLUB QUALIFICATION

Congratulations to the following year 10 students who have all completed and passed their Brilliant Club Scholars Programme qualification:

Abby Dangerfield
Alicia Pitt
Chelsea Tucker
Ellie Osborne
Jordan Meecham
Scott Nichols
Shannon Allum
Stephen Lombi
Summa Goodrum
Tyler Armstrong

The university-style project was entitled 'Feeling Better: From Holistic Healing to Magic Bullets' and was led by tutor and postdoctoral research scientist, Christopher Schultz.

The group received their awards during a graduation ceremony at Southampton University.

DODDLE

Students are reminded to check their homework tasks via the Doodle website. Many revision resources can also be found for all subjects.

<https://www.doodlelearn.co.uk/app/login?>

CIDNEY'S LAW AMBITION

Year 12 student Cidney Mulvany has ambitions to pursue a career in Law and was given a fantastic opportunity to find out what studying for a Law degree at University would involve during a residential trip to Cambridgeshire.

The week-long subject specific course forms part of a programme run by the Villiers Park Educational Trust and will see more of our Sixth Form students, interested in studying other subjects, take part throughout the year.

Cidney has found the experience very beneficial, commenting; "I attended Law based lectures and have been able to ask advice from PhD students and experienced lecturers. During the week we were taken on several interesting visits, including a memorable trip to Peterborough Prison where we looked at the education reform system". Cidney enthused "I know for sure I want to go to university. I am studying Law and have been looking at the subject as a whole. I have come out of this experience knowing that Criminology is the area I wish to focus on and achieve a degree in."

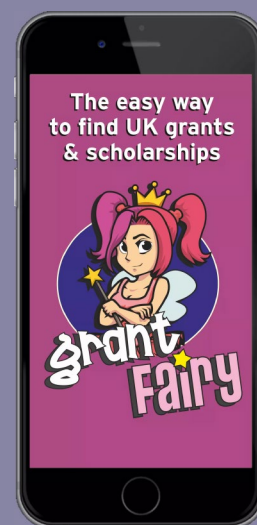


Ambitious Year 12 student, Cidney Mulvany

Another of Cidney's passions is acting and has performed in many school productions at The Basildon Academies. In addition to studying A-Level Law and Photography, she is working towards a BTEC in Performing Arts.

SCHOLARSHIP APP

GrantFairy is a scholarship app which matches students with thousands of scholarships and bursaries to help pay university tuition fees and living expenses.



The App includes a handy guide to UK universities and colleges with detailed course information.

For more information visit:

www.grantfairy.com/uk-scholarship-app

STUDENTS TAKE PART IN NATIONAL BOOK REVIEW SCHEME



Lower Academy Book Club members are currently participating in a national reading scheme for the Carnegie Medal.

Across the nation, students including our Book Club members, along with Mrs Dyer and Ms Hanney, have been reading, swapping, discussing, debating and reviewing books which have been nominated for the CILIP Carnegie Medal. This is the most prestigious prize in Literature for children and young people. The books are being read by the judges at the same time.

"On prize giving day we will compare our results to that of the official judges. It will be very interesting to see how our reviews compare and whether we picked the same winner." Mrs Dyer - English Teacher

On the 18th June a decision will be made as to which book they think will win the prize.



Book Club members, left to right: Grace Hunt, Kevwe Okotoghaide, Ana Vieru, Cordelia Lovage & Lauren Nelson

"Beyond the Bright Sea was one of my favourite books from the shortlist; a story about a girl who wasn't accepted anywhere, but who realises that it doesn't matter what people think. The techniques used to describe the transition between the past and present in 'After the Fire' are different from stories I have read before." Ana Vieru – Year 7

If you are looking for some summer reading check the shortlist out for yourself:

<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/carnegie-current-shortlist.php>

MONTHLY ENRICHMENT ATTENDANCE AWARDS

Enrichment attendance award winners for May: Mr Knight EN23, Ms Landman EN15 (Lower Academy) and Mrs Kashmiri EN31 (Upper Academy).

Lower Academy

Timberlog Close, Basildon, Essex SS14 1UX

Tel: 01268 552 536

Upper Academy

Wickford Avenue, Basildon, Essex SS13 3HL

Tel: 01268 552 536

www.basildonacademies.org.uk

