

**Camden School for Girls**  
*Celebrating 150 years of education*

## July 2023 Newsletter

We have reached the end of yet another brilliant school year. It was wonderful to see so many families join us at the Summer Fest and the Battle of the Bands. This is the time of year we go on a number of outings and this time more than 40 trips went out to a range of impressive destinations. As well as local destinations such as the Frances Crick Institute, the Wellcome Collection and the British Museum, there were a number of residential trips including those to Paris and Barcelona which you can read about in this newsletter. On more local adventures, whilst selling herbs at the Camden Market Day, our students had the privilege of meeting the new Mayor of Camden who we discovered is also a Camden Girl! We have the most wonderful school year and I would like to thank all students, staff and families for making this such a special place. I would like to warmly wish you a lovely summer holiday.



**Kateryna Law, Headteacher**

# Onwards & Upwards

### *In this issue...*

#### Main School News

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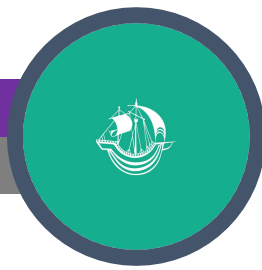
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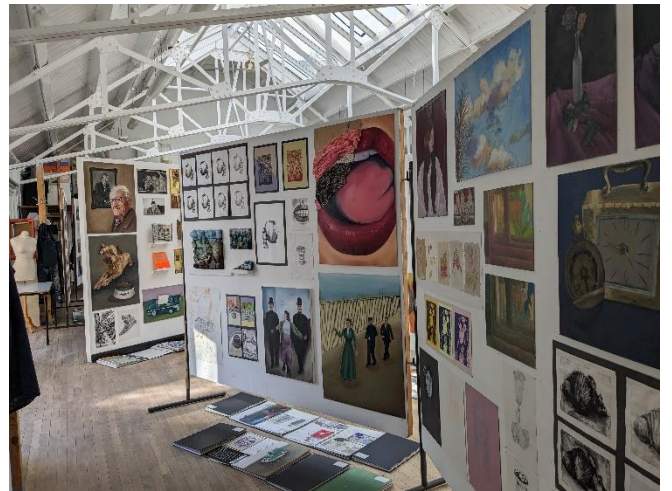
Danceathon



## A Level and GCSE Art Shows



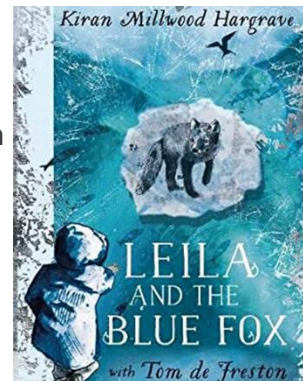
The A level and GCSE Art Shows took place in June and were a wonderful showcase of the creativity, talent and sheer hard work of the CSG Art students and the Art Department. Thank you to all families and friends who took time to visit the exhibitions.





## Year 7 Reading Geography Group

Back in January the Geography department started its Year 7 reading group. Each Monday evening at 7.00pm we met online and read together and discussed a chapter from "Leila and the Blue Fox" by Kiran Millwood Hargrave. Beautifully illustrated, it tells the intertwined stories of a young Syrian refugee and an arctic fox, both on their personal migrations. It is full of geographical themes which lent themselves to some excellent discussions.



Now we have finished reading the book and we miss it.

Many thanks to CASCA for funding the purchase of the books. We hope to repeat the group next year.

Clara in 7M writes: *" I really enjoyed reading Leila and the Blue Fox with the Geography Reading Group because it was really interesting to talk, debate and speculate about what we'd read and what was going to happen next. It opened my mind to thoughts which I don't think I'd have thought of had I been reading this book alone. It was really fun and friendly and I loved flicking through illustrations and it was cool having a copy of the book so I could read along as it was being read out. All in all, I have loved the past few Monday evenings so much because of this!"*

Mr Evans

## Year 8 Rivers Trip

All 120 Year 8 students headed to the River Bulbourne near Hemel Hempstead for the annual Geography rivers trip. The sun shone and the students had a lovely day taking measurements and testing their own hypotheses.

Then the splashing began.

A great day for everyone!





## Spanish Trip to Barcelona

Recently the two year 10 classes went on a school trip to Barcelona.

This trip consisted of spending three and a half days exploring the ins and outs of Barcelona. During this time we managed to visit a large number of famous landmarks, museums and parks in Barcelona, such as La Sagrada Familia, a Flamenco show, going to the Cinema, the Gaudí Park Güell, a Boat ride, the Picasso museum, Monserrat and many more. Going to these famous landmarks and touring around Barcelona was such a wonderful experience which I would love to relive. We all had so much fun and as a class we all really bonded.



While simultaneously expanding our cultural knowledge of the city, we also got the opportunity to practice and improve our Spanish in a hands-on way. For me, the best moment of the whole trip was watching the Flamenco show at the Tavern, as it was both incredibly impressive and inspiring.

This trip was so wonderful and I really recommend the future Year 10s to consider going.

The biggest thank you to Mrs Garcia, and the other teachers on the trip, for not only looking after all of us, but also organising such an incredible few days.

Klea 10R



## French Trip to Paris

The trip to Paris was my first time abroad and I really enjoyed it. We saw Amélie at the cinema, we did a chocolate workshop, we went to the Champs Elysées, but my favourite part of the trip was by far the boat ride on the Seine in the evening. The architecture was so beautiful, the river looked so clean (even though it probably wasn't) and it was just very peaceful.

I was also able to practise my French by speaking in it to French people for the first time, which was very valuable as I got to see where I need to improve.

Belle 10C



We were lucky enough to see the Sacré Cœur, Notre Dame, the Eiffel Tower and make our own chocolate creations at a chocolate museum - not to mention my personal favourite viewing of the centre Pompidou's gallery of modern art!

The weather was beautiful and I loved spending time with everyone and getting to know them better. A big thank you to Ms Benzina, Ms Brown and Ms Pinder for taking good care of us and organising such a fabulous trip!

Hannah 10R



## PE Trip to Stubbers Outdoor Centre

On Wednesday 14 June some students from Years 8, 9 and 10 who regularly attend PE clubs went on a trip to Stubbers Outdoor Centre in Essex.



We took part in lots of different activities throughout the day. These were, high ropes, rock climbing, bell boating, kayaking, laser tag and archery. We enjoyed all of them, but the bell boats were really fun because we could jump into the lake to cool down as it was a really hot day! The high ropes were our favourite as we got to climb up to the highest

point on the course and take a zip line down or attempt the leap of faith! Most of us had never done any of the activities, so it was great to try things that we've never seen before.

In laser tag we were in two teams, and had to 'shoot' the other team and get them all out. This was really fun as we did it in a field and were able to hide behind bales of hay and piles of tires.



We all had a great time and really hope we can go on the trip next year. It is a reward for students who regularly attend PE clubs throughout the year, so we hope that these reviews motivate people to go to clubs and hopefully get into the trip next year!

Zara, Embla, Maddy, Year 9





## Congratulations to Niamh in Year 12

Sailing for Westminster, Niamh won Bronze in the Female Fusion Fleet at the London Youth Games last weekend and Gold in the Feva Regatta at the British Youth Sailing Regional Junior Championships the weekend before.



Niamh sails at the Westminster Boating Base where she is also training to be an Assistant Instructor. The [youth programme](#) is open to all young people aged 10-23 years.

Congratulations Niamh!

Ms Goldsworthy



## Shadowing the Carnegie Medal

The Carnegie Medal is the most prestigious literary award for a book published for young people during the previous year. The award is judged by librarians. Running in parallel is the Carnegie Shadowing Scheme which involves students in schools across the country reading and discussing the shortlisted titles and voting for their own winner.



18 keen readers from Year 7 took part in the 2023 shadowing scheme. The students had to read 7 books in as many weeks, and discuss them at our weekly meetings. The CSG Group were almost unanimous in selecting:

**I Must Betray You by Ruta Sepetys** as their winner. In fact many of the students enjoyed this historical novel about the 1989 Romanian Revolution that they immediately went on to read other books by the same author! Here are some of their comments about this book from the reviews the students posted on the Carnegie website:

*I found myself very attached to the characters and I really enjoyed learning so much about the revolution and wowing my family with this knowledge. Lana*

*It was very easy to get into, fast paced, the author created so much tension between characters and the book had so many plot twists. Delphia*

*The reader becomes engrossed in Christian's life as the story continues, and his hate, fear and fury are all tangible the further you read. Eva*

*I loved this, it is very fast paced and the author creates a sense of panic and unease. The Romanian dictatorship was not something I knew or had even heard about before I read this book and it is a very interesting subject that should be more well known. Katie*

We have several copies of each book available for loan in the school library. Please do encourage your children to borrow them.

Ms Green





## Food School Matters Project Year 7 masterclass cooking with vegetables

As part of the School Food Matters project, the Year 7 gardening club were treated to a cooking masterclass with a professional chef based around how to cook vegetables and use all parts of a cauliflower. I think we all learnt so much about how to reduce food waste and adapt our eating habits. The standard of cooking was excellent so well done to everyone who took part.

Ms Toman

Thank you to chef Sharon, who came to our school to cook cauliflower fritters and dips. It was an amazing experience to be cooking such a simple yet delicious dish. We also enjoyed that there was little to no waste as we made a salsa out of the stalks. It was a really fun experience and the food was really good. We enjoyed cooking with our friends! We hope something similar happens again. Thank you.

Grace, Francesca, Aileena, Lila, Kira, Mia





## Count on Us London Competition

A big congratulations to the Camden Squadrilaterals, a group of Year 9 students who took part in the Count on Us tournament Final on Thursday 6 July and came second overall, out of sixty schools across London.

Count on us is a London wide mathematics tournament with five competitive maths puzzle rounds, and the team did the school proud.



The team committed many lunchtimes and after-school sessions to practise the puzzles, which led them to success. They were highly praised by teachers from the competing schools for their quick thinking and algebraic skills.

Well done to Yoanna 9R, Maja 9T, Mathilda 9T, Loveday 9C and Nilima 9C!

The maths department is very proud of you! Go Squadrilaterals!

Ms Al-zeer



## Teen Tech Awards

Congratulations once again to CSG STEM Club for making it to the TeenTech Finals!

This is a HUGE achievement; the standard of entries was outstanding, and 3 of our projects stood out to the judges. CSG set up their Innovation Stations at the IET Savoy Place and spent the day pitching to judges and networking with other finalists from around the country.

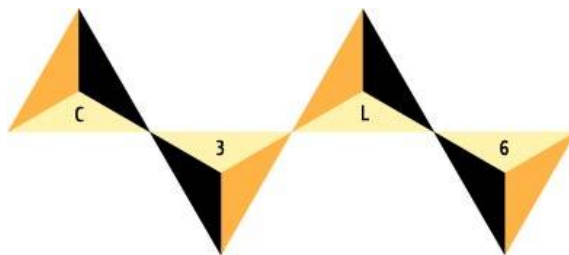


Well done to everyone that entered, securing Silver and Gold TeenTech Awards for their teams and another Silver Award recognising Camden School for Girls as a centre of excellence and innovation! It's been a pleasure working with such talented students.

Ms Ronayne and Mr Semsedini



## Cambridge Chemistry Challenge Results



The Cambridge Chemistry Challenge is a competition aiming to stretch and challenge students interested in chemistry and providing an excellent experience for anyone considering taking their studies further. Set by an experienced team of teachers and university chemists, it is designed to be accessible to Year 12 students but will take them significantly beyond the syllabus and encourage them to think about science in the way they would at university

On Wednesday 21 June, 35 of our Y12 students participated in the challenge, gaining 6 Silver and 13 Copper Awards.

Gold Awards were 38 marks and our top two students were on 36 and 37 marks - nearly!

This is an amazing level of participation. Well done to all the students taking part!

Certificates and awards will be distributed in September.

Ms Butterworth





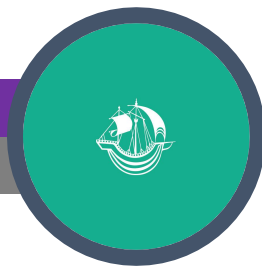
## Debate Club News

This last term, Debate Club has been ramping up in preparation for the first CSG Debate Competition, taking place on the 14th and 17 July. A number of students from all across KS3 have been teaming up and preparing to do verbal battle on a variety of Debate topics, including "This house would make voting compulsory" and "This house believes that the creation of social media platforms has done more harm than good". The students have been very dedicated in their preparation, and been keen in developing their oracy skills and practising during Debate Club.



This has been aided by a few of our more experienced KS4 students, who have done a fantastic job in mentoring and leading some sessions, giving advice to our first time competitors and helping them develop their thinking towards the different motions. Their own experience in competing, such as at the Oxford Schools Debates earlier this year, has been invaluable for our students. In fact, Moya and Melita Y10, and Gloria Y11, have recently all been selected to join the National Debate Squad Development Teams, meaning that they could potentially be representing England in the upcoming years in global competitions - a huge honour, and a credit to their hard work and dedication!

Very well done to all our debaters! You have made us exceptionally proud, and we look forward to watching you in the competition, and view your continual progression into excellent debaters.



## Year 8 History Trip to Greenwich

In June, Year 8 visited the National Maritime Museum.

It was an opportunity to visit historical sites such as the 17th century Queen's House and to get up close to historical artefacts on a range of topics studied this year, including Elizabethan exploration, British colonialism in India and the origins, impact and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade.



Students had the opportunity to visit the famous 'Armada portrait' of Elizabeth I and to engage and contribute to some of the work the museum is doing on updating its transatlantic slavery gallery. The students were fabulous and I hope the experience was as enriching for them as it was for us!

With special thanks to Ms Gall Gray and Ms Miller for organising and resourcing the trip.

## Year 10 History Trip to the Migration Museum

In July, our Year 10 historians visited the Migration Museum in Lewisham. The museum shines a spotlight on the many migrant stories that have shaped the UK in recent history, bringing to life the experience of migrants and the legacy of migration in the UK today.

We were led by two terrific museum educators who challenged the students to think not only about the vast array of migrant experiences but also to critically consider what and who has shaped the narratives around migration; to identify the 'historical silences' that are present and empowered the students to take their place in shaping how we tell the story of migration to Britain. This trip supported our History GCSE unit 'Migrants in Britain, c800-present'.



With special thanks to Mrs Spalter for organising the trip.

Mrs Wroe and the History department



## Danceathon

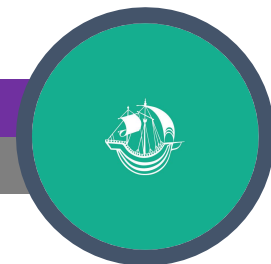
This was our fifth Danceathon and we danced and danced and danced! The whole school took part in what was a fantastic day full of fun and energy.



Everyone had worked so hard on their class dances, the preparation was amazing and the creativity higher than ever. Congratulations to 9R for winning the grand final after a very hard-fought competition.



We raised just over £3000 and this will go towards new water coolers for the school. A huge thank you to Ms Hamilton, Ms Devine, Amy, Nicky and all families who supported the Danceathon.



**We would like to wish all our students and families a wonderful summer holiday!**

**We look forward to seeing you back in September**

## Start of Term

**September**

Friday 1 September

Sixth Form Enrolment

Monday 4 September

Inset Day (school closed to students)

Tuesday 5 September

First day for Year 7 and Year 12

Wednesday 6 June

First day for all Year groups

## Support the school

An enormous thank you for all your donations. We could not make all these events and opportunities happen without your support. Camden School for Girls continues to face significant and ongoing cuts to its funding. As a voluntary aided school, we rely on your support to keep the high-quality provision at the school. If you wish to support the school we now have a very easy to use CAFdonate page available [here](#) or you can scan the QR code.



We would like to thank all families for their ongoing support of the school and wish you a relaxing summer break!