



Week Gone/Ahead –3rd March 2023

Centre Academy London (CAL)

Dear Parents/Carers, Students & Staff,

Since our last newsletter before half-term, our students and staff have been very busy preparing for examinations, meeting visitors to our school, including a visit from Wandsworth Head of SEN.

Deborah Johnson, Head of SEN at Wandsworth has said that she will be writing to you about the OFSTED report as a matter of routine. She understands that you may be anxious after the published report and that is why she has visited as soon as she could. The visit, which was positive, I hope will allay any fears you may have but if you do have concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me and arrange a meeting.

Thank you for all your positive ideas and messages being sent to my staff. They have all appreciated your support, as do I. Some of you are understandably concerned since the OFSTED report was published and we recognise that it is a tough read; however, we have embraced it as an Operation Reset and we will continue to strive to make CAL the best environment for your children to learn and reach their true potential.

COVID-19

Our school community has had a flurry of positive cases during half-term and some of our family communities have also suffered from this persistent and very annoying disruption to our school life. We have instructed our cleaning staff to focus on hotspots/touch panel areas and we have bought more hand sanitisers and wipes for classroom desks. We just have to live with it I'm afraid.

STRIKES

None of our staff have been involved in the national strikes as we are an independent school; however, I have been informed that there is a likelihood that there will be a strike for independent staff sometime this month. Staff are not obliged to tell me but in my experience, they usually do.

There are both tube and rail strikes happening next week I believe between **16th – 18th March** and **30th March – 1st April**. These strikes are disruptive for everyone but the staff at CAL manage to get here, often doubling or trebling their commuter time to ensure that we are open.

HOMEWORK PLANNERS

All parents should have the whole school homework schedule by now and it is also on the website and Parents at CAL Teams app.



Students have new planners and we are "encouraging" them to a) complete them and b) take them home!

We do indeed have two sessions per week for Prep but for older students or GCSE, they will also have more homework than younger students which means they will have to complete homework outside of school hours.

A Day in the life of...Planned visitors, courtesy of Mr Jeffrey

Friday 3rd February

Galit Klein, University Lecturer "How to be an entrepreneur"

Galit was a wonderful speaker and gave our students the opportunity to hear how others have embarked on projects that are inspirational and aspirational.

Tuesday 21st February

Jan Bookes from Wandsworth Foodbank had to postpone but she will be with us soon!

Friday 24th February

PC Sam and colleagues

Our local constabulary sent 5 members of staff who talked to the students and explained their daily lives and work lives. They also answered some tough questions!

One of our favourite moments when Mr Jeffrey was handcuffed, albeit very briefly. There were a few worrying moments of the police staff looking at each other and patting their pockets for the keys to unlock him, which we hugely enjoyed!



Thank you to PC Sam and his colleagues for taking the time out to speak with our students. I hear one student is now interested in joining the constabulary and that is Mr Jeffrey's goal – to engage and inspire.

Friday 3rd March Groundworks

Groundwork is a federation of charities mobilising practical community action on poverty and the environment across the UK.

We're passionate about creating a future where every neighbourhood is vibrant and green, every community is strong and able to shape its own destiny and no-one is held back by their background or circumstances.

Charity registration number 291558

SARAYU SHAH from the Groundworks organisation, which focus on environmental and social projects and improvements to local areas, visited our school on Friday. She talked to the students about her life and how she came to be involved with the charity. So far £90 million has been invested in enhancing the quality of life for people in local communities. It was wonderful for all of us to hear how we can support our local communities and each other. Two of our students, Lewis & Hayder will be carrying out

their work experience. during the summer at Groundworks. I think they will thoroughly enjoy this experience.

There's more to come. During the next few weeks:

Wednesday 8th March

CEO Lego

Friday 17th March

Manager and owner of Londis, Battersea

Friday 12th May

Arabella Stein, CEO Bright Agency, art illustration

I know there are more to add here as I know Mr Jeffrey has been very busy finding more speakers to provide our students with a diverse group of people from different backgrounds and occupations to talk to them.

Work experience

Mr Jeffrey is also responsible for sourcing work experience placements for our KS4 students. I can take no credit for the 15 work experience placements Mr Jeffrey has organised for our older students to date. These range from working in Asda, local bakeries, charity shops, Boots the Chemist and SEN Talk, which one of our parents is the Director. Thanks Annaliese! [Our Team - SenTalk](#)

A **HUGE** thanks to Mr Jeffrey for his sterling work. It is a thankless task as he receives many rejections before any offers are made but I do appreciate his work, as I am sure you do too.

This Week's Rewards- 3rd March, 2023

House	Up to last week	This week						
		SotW	Head of School award	Kindness	Attendance	Tokens	Total for this week	Final
Falcon	250	90	10		50	6	156	406
Wandle	297	50		10	40	8	108	405
Effra	468	80	10	10	70	5	175	643

As you can see Effra are storming ahead and this is partly due to them achieving 100% attendance awards. For a student to achieve 100% attendance, they must be in school or present every day. If they are ill or at medical appointments, these are authorised but do not count towards their attendance. Considering that many of our students have medical appointments each week, this can seem harsh but OFSTED do take into account the authorised figures but as a school, we have to pursue over 10% absence.

Persistent absence is 10%+

Severe Absence is 50%+ and this may involve a possible referral to the School Attendance Panel (SAP). Severe absence is deemed as neglect and a referral is made to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub team to provide support for the CYP and family.

[School attendance and truancy - Wandsworth Borough Council](#)

Next week I will share with you the flow chart we are currently mapping to show you the trigger points of when we have to intervene. Our school works with several families whose child's mental health means it is a daily struggle to get them into school but we pride ourselves on being flexible and inventive, and we aim to support all the family with their transition back to CAL.

Student of the Week		
Wandle	Falcon	Effra
Thomas M- Music Michael- Handing in mobile Jason – Citizenship Spencer – Humanities Jules- PE	Jake – Art, Science Kurt - Music Teddy- Music Zack – Art, PE Michaela- Citizenship, Louise- Art Mimi- Art club	Rose- Maths Michele- Humanities, Social skills William- Citizenship, Evan- Maths George- Art, ICT, English

Keep it up everyone! There are some doubles and triples in there. Although we are mindful not to miss anyone, I don't feel we should stop some students receiving several certificates. If they deserve it, they should receive them, not reduce them! Credit where it is due. Well done these double/triple winners.

Students with 100% attendance		
Noah A Spencer Michael Thomas	Noah B Kurt Zack Mimi Jake	Ethan William Thomas W Leo Alfie Margie Michele
Head of School Award		
	Farren	Evan
House of the Week		
Effra		

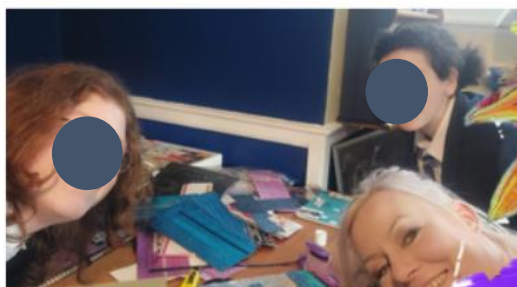
Head of School award

This week I have awarded certificates to both **Farren** and **Evan**. They met with our visitor Deborah Johnson, Head of SEN at Wandsworth Borough. She wanted to hear about their experience at CAL and in addition, how the OFSTED visit went for them.

I have to say, I was inordinately proud of them. They were quite frankly amazing and I was very grateful for their positive, but honest, opinions. I know

Debbie was impressed by their sensible and mature attitude. A credit to their parents!!!

Crafty Cub



Greetings from us Busy Bees in Craft Hub! We decided to do covers for our Journals. We went from a jumble of bitssemi organised chaos to.....



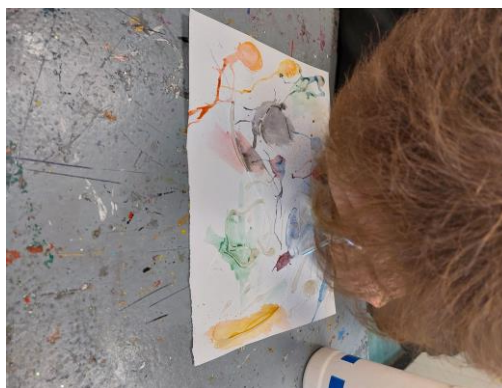
.....this... Wonderful, vibrant covers!

We had great fun looking through all sorts of wonderful embellishments to create these fabulous craft journal covers, whilst having a super chat about our respective weeks.

Well done Craft Hubbers!

Gallery

Glue and watercolour resist art



Drawing an initial design with the glue gun, we then experimented with colours and application of the paint, a wash, spattering and blowing patterns with a straw.

To spice things up we then experimented with adding salt and alcohol gel which create interesting patterns with their reactions.

Here are our practice sheets.

Poets Corner

This week's poem is written by Jules. The capitals are for emphasis I am told!

CIRCLED BY RABID DOGS by Jules Verburg.

The Day the clouds turned Dark
Was to be the final day I remarked
For, all the days after, Continue to be Stark.

My Passion turned to Obsession
Within the Flick of too short a Second
As lost Souls beckoned to me -
“Forget Control give into Temptation”.

The Clouds, the Clouds stay Dark
As I'm Circled by rabid dogs
Who Bark and Bark at the Clouds
So that the storm is silenced.

I Ponder at the Sighting of
Thunder and Lightning
Formed by the rare sight of a Storm.

The Storm doesn't care for what the World thinks
There is no care for the city on the Brink
There is no care if the World begins to sink.

Regardless of the weather
The storm is a cog in Mother Nature
The storm in Mother Nature's one of many tiny cogs
It is however, better than these lost dogs.

Internet Safety



This photograph shows some of our Wonder students working away using the poster Not Gonna Lie (NGL).

If you have not done so yet, please have a look at this guidance I sent on Wednesday. It is certainly is an eye opener.

Whatsapp groups

At the end of this week, I received a couple of emails off both students and parents, concerned about conversations on Whatsapp groups which were inappropriate and are in fact cyberbullying.

Any bullying that happens on our site is dealt with swiftly and if I may quote from our OFSTED report: ***“Pupils are happy at this small school. They like its warm, friendly atmosphere. Pupils behave sensibly and respectfully. Incidents of bullying are dealt with appropriately.”***

Now as a school we are not responsible for bullying that is not on our site. We are not responsible for what occurs on social media sites but we do have a duty of care to educate our students (and sometimes give a lending hand to our parents) to understand that they cannot behave in a way that is inappropriate, unkind or bullying. We are committed to the mental health and well being of all our students both in and out of school.

For a student that is considered a perpetrator, they often need our understanding, support and guidance to not repeat this behaviour. We usually find that they themselves may have been bullied in the past.

One of the parents involved said: “our children are not perfect, they do make mistakes and please tell the parent (of the perpetrator) that one day, we may be stood in their shoes, trying to understand why our child has made a similar mistake.”

Finally, may I assure you that we do not tolerate any bullying but we are also equally committed in supporting our students who need our support not to reoffend.

Have a good weekend everyone.

Kas Lee-Douglas
Head of School

Parent feedback

Please continue to email us at:

Londonschool@centreacademy.co.uk.



CA LONDON ACADEMIC YEAR 2022/2023

Whilst every attempt has been made to publish dates accurately, the school reserves the right to change these dates should it be necessary to do so

AUTUMN TERM 2022

Inset day: Thursday 1st September 2022
Friday 2nd September 2022

First day: Monday 5th September 2022
Last day: Friday 21st October **School finishes at 3pm**
Half term: Monday 24th October to Friday 28th October 2022
Last day of term: Friday 9th December 2021 **School finishes at 3pm**

SPRING TERM 2023

Inset day: Wednesday 4th January 2023

First day: Thursday 5th January 2023
Last day: Friday 10th February 2023 **School finishes at 12pm (Teachers Inset 1-3pm)**
Half term: Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023
Last day of term: Friday 24th March 2023 **School finishes at 3pm**

SUMMER TERM 2023

Inset day: Friday 14th April 2023

First day: Monday 17th April 2023
EXTRA BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 8TH MAY King's Coronation
Last day: Friday 26th May 2023 **School finishes at 12pm** (Teachers Inset 1-3pm)
Half term: Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023
Inset day: Friday 30th of June -2023 (Graduation)
Sports' Day Wednesday 5th July 2023
Last day of term: Friday 7th July 2023 **School finishes at 1pm**

Christmas Bank Holidays:

Sunday 25th December/Monday 26th December 2022. Substitute day Tuesday 27th December 2022

Sunday 1st January 2023. Substitute Day: Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Easter Bank Holidays:

Good Friday 7th April 2023
Easter Monday 10th April 2023

May Bank Holidays:

Monday 1st May 2023
Monday 29th May 2023

6 staff INSET days