

The Victory Academy Newsletter

December 2023

Headteacher's End of Term Address

As 2023 comes to a close, I am delighted to share our newsletter with you. There are so many positive moments to celebrate, only some of which are covered here.

Last year's year 11 and 13 cohort left us with some excellent results. I was thrilled to be able to share the moment of opening their results with them. Many keep in touch with us to let us know how they are getting on at university or in their careers; I look forward to welcoming some back to speak with our current students about their experiences and journeys.

As we approach the end of 2023 and reflect upon the last year, I can say that our students and staff continue to make me extremely



proud to be the Headteacher of The Victory Academy. There has been superb work going on inside the classrooms as well as extra-curricular successes, trips and clubs.

I am very much looking forward to continuing to work with you all to ensure the very best possible life chances for our young people. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very prosperous 2024.



Key Dates

Term 3

Wednesday 3rd January to Friday 9th February 2024

GCSE Re-sit Results Day – Thursday 11th January

Year 12 Parents' Evening – Thursday 1st February

Year 10 Parents' Evening – Thursday 8th February

February Half Term – Monday 12th to Friday 16th February 2024

Term 4

Monday 19th February to Thursday 28th March 2024

Year 11 Mock Exams – w/c 19th February

Year 13 Mock Exams – w/c 26th February

Year 8 Parents' Evening – Thursday 7th March

Year 9 Parents' and Options Evening – Wednesday 20th March

Spring Break – Friday 29th March to Friday 12th April 2024

Follow Us for Updates

Website - <https://www.thevictoryacademy.org.uk/>

Facebook - [@TheVictoryAcademyChatham](https://www.facebook.com/TheVictoryAcademyChatham)

X (Twitter) - [@TheVA_Chatham](https://twitter.com/TheVA_Chatham)

Instagram - [@tsat_victoryacademy](https://www.instagram.com/tsat_victoryacademy)

Updates and News

Uniform

Ahead of the new year please can we ask for support in ensuring students have the correct uniform. As part of our Victory Values we take pride in ensuring a high standard of uniform and appearance. Items marked * can be purchased from our uniform supplier identified below.

Our School Uniform:

- Academy blazer*
- Academy tie (House colour)*
- Plain black V-neck jumper (optional item in addition to a blazer)
- White shirt, either long or short sleeved
- Plain black straight leg trousers (no skinny fit or denim) or plain black knee-length skirt
- Plain black ankle socks (no frills or colours) or plain black or skin-colour tights
- Plain black flat formal enclosed shoes (no boots, canvas shoes or trainers)
- Black headscarf (to be worn for religious reasons only)

Performing Arts & PE Kit:

- Academy PE top*
- Academy half-zip long sleeve top (optional)*; no other long sleeve tops are acceptable
- Plain navy shorts or plain navy knee-length cycling shorts with discreet logo
- Trainers
- Navy football socks (desirable)
- Football boots with plastic studs (desirable)
- Shin pads (desirable)

Uniform can be purchased online from [Simmonds](#) or alternatively the nearest shops are:

S Simmonds & Son Ltd
Newnham Court Shopping Village
Bearsted Road
Maidstone
ME14 5LH

S Simmonds & Son Ltd
Chatham Dockside
Maritime Way
Chatham
ME4 3ED
Telephone: 01892 837202

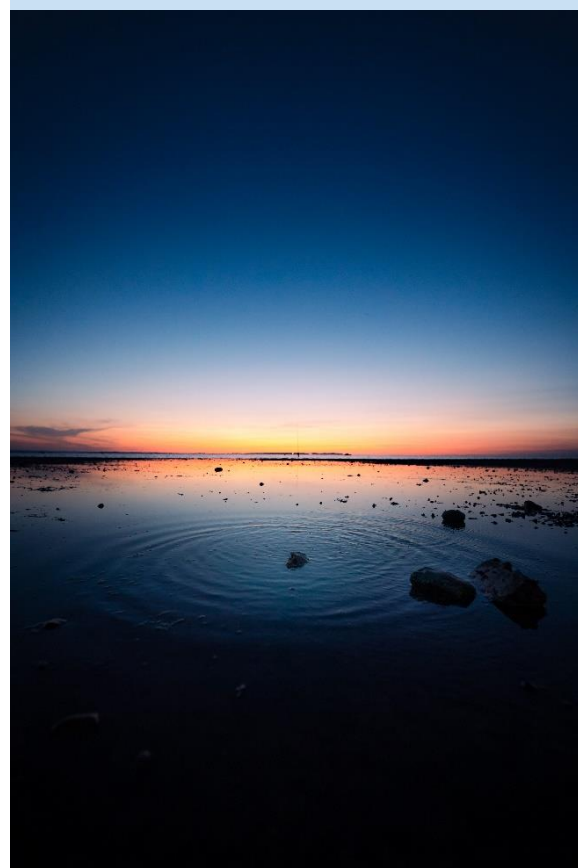


Unsung Hero Award

Congratulations to Mrs Wade, our Science Technician, for her Unsung Hero Award nomination from the National Teaching Awards.

Photography

Big congratulations to Riley S (year 13) who is the winner of the Kent Wildlife Trust Photography Competition 2023! His winning entry in the under 18 category is stunning.





Terms 1 and 2 Events

8 Years of Victory!

On Thursday 21st September we celebrated Victory Day; the eighth anniversary of our official opening! Students took part in a variety of activities throughout the day; including football, basketball, table tennis, tug-of-war and an inflatable obstacle course.

Students were with different departments doing activities based around Arts, Naval and Thinking. Year 7 were with English and Art doing a children's book project, illustrating animals and creating a story for their characters. They also welcomed illustrator and author Georgina Golding who talked about her books and art style. Year 8 worked with Humanities and Modern Foreign Languages on an exciting project about the Battle of Trafalgar. Year 9 took part in Maths and DT activities creating 3D shapes and structures, and Year 10 did practical sessions with the Science department. Year 11 spent the day in workshops about careers, debates and learning valuable revision methods.

In the evening, our guests were invited for a celebration where we took the opportunity to show off the talent our Victory Family has to offer. There was a showcase of students' work from the day, and performances in the Quarterdeck from our Performing Arts students. The celebration continued with a sit-down meal in the Galley, which included a selection of delicious desserts all prepared by our GCSE Food students!



Odd Socks Day

To support Anti-Bullying Week, on Wednesday 15th November our students and staff came to school wearing odd socks and celebrated what makes us all unique.



World Mental Health Day



In October we celebrated World Mental Health Day and raised money for CALM. Our students took part in a variety of activities including basketball 'beat the defender', football penalty shoot

outs, and writing positive messages on our mental health display. We also held a green cupcake sale. The Sixth Form football team also took on a staff team in the annual charity football match. A massive thank you to our Sixth Form helpers for organising the day.

Harvest Festival

Throughout November we collected Harvest Festival donations to support Medway Food Bank and our local community. A big thank you to everyone who donated.



Terms 1 and 2 Events

Remembrance Day

On Friday 10th November The Victory Academy held a Remembrance Service to remember those in the Armed Forces and their families.

The service began with a prayer and The Stand by John Bailey read by Dannie-Rae (Year 7) and Deborah (Year 12). The playing of the Last Post on the trumpet then signalled the start of the silence. After this a wreath was laid at the foot of our flagpole as a mark of respect for those who have lost their lives.

Children in Need

On Friday 17th November we held fundraising activities for Children in Need. This included a bake sale, polka dot face painting and a raffle.



We also held a Pudsey Cupcake Competition. Each form group chose a representative to decorate a cupcake. Well done to everyone who took part and big congratulations to Evie W from 9.6 for winning!

Democracy Week

In September we held Democracy Week where each year group took part in the Year Group Representative vote. Students were given ballot slips and went to an individual booth to replicate a real polling station. The voting went really well and we are proud of our students for taking part!



New Scientist Live

On Monday 9th October our Lighthouse students went to New Scientist Live at ExCeL London. They had an exciting day viewing Science-based activities and displays. This included a live link-up with the International Space Station, seeing the world's most advanced electric car, talks from researchers and scientists about paths into STEM careers, and activities around the exploration of Mars.





Art

Sun Pier House Workshops

In November three groups of our year 7 students attended artist workshops at Sun Pier House. They took part in continuous line drawing and teamwork challenges, then spoke with the artists about their work.

On Tuesday 14th they met Nadia Perrotta, lead artist at House of Stars, and artist/musician Dill Tasker. Nadia spoke about her journey and showed examples of her artwork, then our students joined in singing with Nadia and Dill. Our students really enjoyed the workshop.

Rosie – “it was very fun, I learnt about an artist and how comics are made. The songs were nice and happy.”

“Today I learnt I shouldn’t doubt myself because of my drawings. I learnt that you can get a little giggle out of your drawings!”

Alina – “the workshop was really fun and we all got to work together.”



On Thursday 16th the second group met Marissa Mardon who spoke about being an artist, her inspirations, and showed some of her artwork. The next day the last group of students met Sarah Blacker-Barrowman of Miss Ava’s Millinery who spoke about the traditional tools and skills used to create her hats, fascinators and headpieces.

Art Club

Our year 8 and 9 Art Club students have collaborated on a painting which will cover the back of the piano in the Performing Arts department. They were inspired by the themes of Drama, Music and Dance to create the piece.



Workshops

We recently welcomed the University for the Creative Arts to deliver a Cyanotype Workshop to our year 10 Fine Art students. They used natural elements to create beautiful cyanotype designs for their GCSE coursework.



In October our year 11 Graphics students took part in a live virtual webinar. Designed to give students an insight into future creative careers, the webinar focused on 'A Day in the Life of a Graphic Designer'. This also included a virtual tour of Canterbury Christchurch University's Graphic Design studios for their degree courses. At the end students had the opportunity to submit questions to be answered by the academic staff.

Criminology

Crime Scene Workshop

We welcomed Simon from Zakon Training to deliver a workshop to our year 13 Criminology students. The interactive workshop 'Crime Scene to Courtroom' linked with the unit our students are studying in lessons.

The day started off with a 999 call directly from the scene of an alleged murder and students then had to commit to a series of decisions that took them through an intensive investigation. Simon has real life experience of murder investigations. The students worked in teams and were involved in securing the scene and gathering evidence as if the students were police officers and crime scene investigators. They then analysed the evidence through a range of practical exercises. As the workshop progressed, they were involved in the charging process and how this would happen for a real crime. The workshop ended with a mock trial with each student having a role as they defended, prosecuted or gave evidence in the mock trial and the jury decided whether the suspect was guilty or not.



The students felt that this was an engaging and informative session as it consolidated everything they have learnt in the course so far, helping them apply the theory into practice. The students were introduced to a whole host of potential careers within police, investigation agencies, forensic science, law and the wider criminal justice system. The Academy received positive feedback from Zakon Training and this is an experience we will be offering each year to our Criminology students.

Geography

Coasts Rap

Well done to Shaeyla H and Ersila K (year 10) for creating a rap in Miss Jones' class. The rap is about the formation of caves, arches, stacks and stumps from the Coasts unit at GCSE. They will be working on some more raps in the future.

Yes now its the 1323
me and ersila in geography
I heard you wanna know 'bout cliffs n headlands
well please sit down and listen to this lesson

Starting off with waves, their so wavy
they smash against a cliff to form a cave-y
by hydraulic action, thats what its called
hydraulic ~~action~~ abrasion's rocks, so cool

As time goes by, the cave gets bigger/longer
Hope your paying attention to this song-a
Carrying on, the cave continues to expand
an arch appears so tall and grand

Weathering occurs on top of the arch
The overhang sadly doesn't get a chance
Gravity, a force so strong,
pulls it down and now its all gone

Standing all alone is a stack
its past life has been attacked.
~~lonely~~ and but if you take a look, behind further back
its starts again and thats the end of the rap

Geography Club

Our Geography Club, run by Miss Jones, has been looking at current affairs. James F (year 8) has produced some work on a tornado which hit the UK in the past few weeks. By the end of the year the department hope to create a Geography newspaper with all the geographical issues in the news.

Breaking news! Tornado warning

Today the Tornado and Storm Research Organisation, [confirmed](#) that their preliminary inquiries indicated a tornado had happened.

A statement on their website reads: "TORO Site Investigators Sarah Horton and Tony Gilbert carried out a detailed Site Investigation on Sunday 29th October 2023 to assess the damage and type of damage. "While the full details are yet to be looked at, a tornado has been confirmed with a provisional rating of T4." T4 indicates a wind speed of between 115-136 mph.

It comes as more flood warnings have been issued along parts of the south coast with Storm Claran due to hit on Thursday. It follows severe flooding that hit Hastings town centre on Saturday, forcing the shopping centre to be evacuated.

Roofs ripped off and homes under water - Extreme weather in pictures
Residents spoke of phenomenal winds hitting properties between 6pm and 7pm. Several people posted images of damage to buildings and gardens, with one woman showing a garden shed which had been blown into her garden.

Southern and western parts of England, south Wales and eastern Scotland have yellow weather warnings for rain in place on Sunday. Further warnings have been issued every day until Thursday with the Met Office naming Storm Claran, forecast to hit next week.

It comes after Storm Babet killed at least seven people earlier this month.

Met Office deputy chief meteorologist Chris Almond said of the storm: "Winds associated with Storm Claran are likely to gust to 80mph along the south coast of England, with a small risk of somewhere exposed seeing 90mph, and winds could even gust up to 100mph or 100mph further inland."

He added: "This deep low pressure system will also bring heavy rain to much of the UK, but the heaviest rain is expected in southern and western areas with 20 to 25mm quite widely across the region but up to 40 to 60mm potentially over higher ground.

"Heavy and persistent rain will fall on to already saturated ground bringing a risk of further impacts such as flooding in areas that are already struggling to clean up from the heavy rainfall we have seen over the last week or so."

English

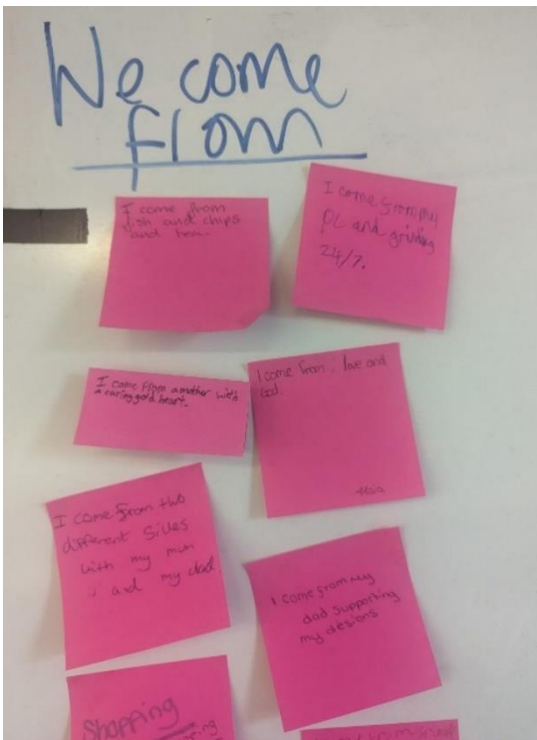


Youth Speaks Competition

Congratulations to Bella N (year 10) who took part in Rotary Youth Speaks competition, delivering a speech on the stigmatisation of mental health. The competition gives students the opportunity to speak for five minutes on a chosen subject, and they are then questioned by the judge panel. Bella's speech was praised for its powerful message, and she was awarded runner-up in her 14-17 age category! A huge congratulations to all the students involved, but particularly a massive well done to Bella.

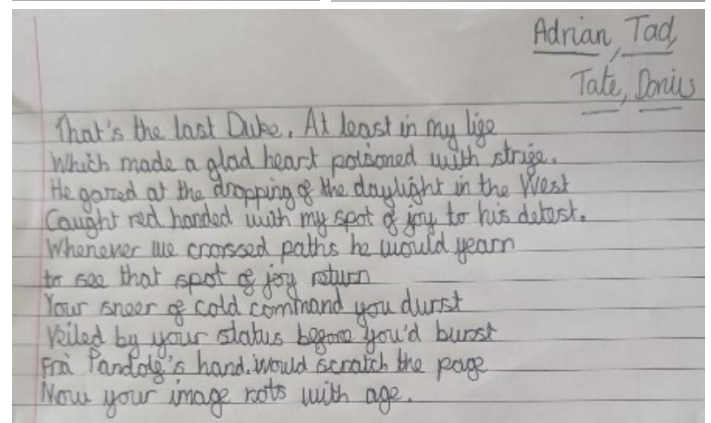
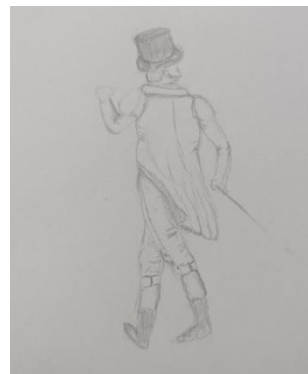
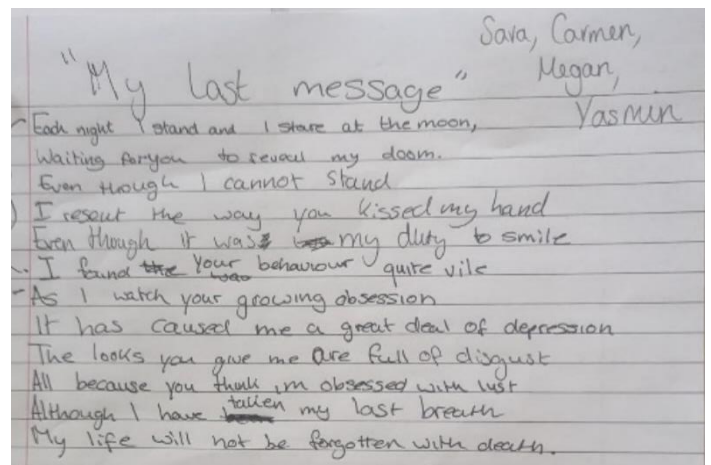
'We Come From' Poems

Year 8 students have been studying identity poetry. After studying 'Where I Come From' by Dean Atta, each student had the opportunity to write their own line describing themselves. Each line has been collated to create a poem titled 'We Come From' and it tells a story of identity, tradition and culture.



'My Last Duchess' Poems

Year 10 students have written poems from the perspective of the Duchess from 'My Last Duchess' by Robert Browning. They worked hard to mimic the rhyming couplets used by the Duke and wrote some brilliant creative pieces. They also created illustrations to accompany their poems.



History

History Update

Our year 11 History students completed their mock exams this term and did very well. Attending the Learning Period 7 revision sessions really helped. Our year 7 are settling in well and are enjoying learning about The Black Death, and we are noticing some real young historians.

Mr Willicombe supervises the History Mystery Club which is student-led. It takes place every Wednesday after school and all students are welcome – come along and let's build on those young historian skills!

The entire History Team would like to wish you all a happy holiday.

Black History Month

In October we celebrated Black History Month and held a poetry competition which saw some amazing entries and many that have been submitted to the National Poetry Competition. Well done to everyone who entered for your creative poems and hard work, and a big congratulations to our winners!

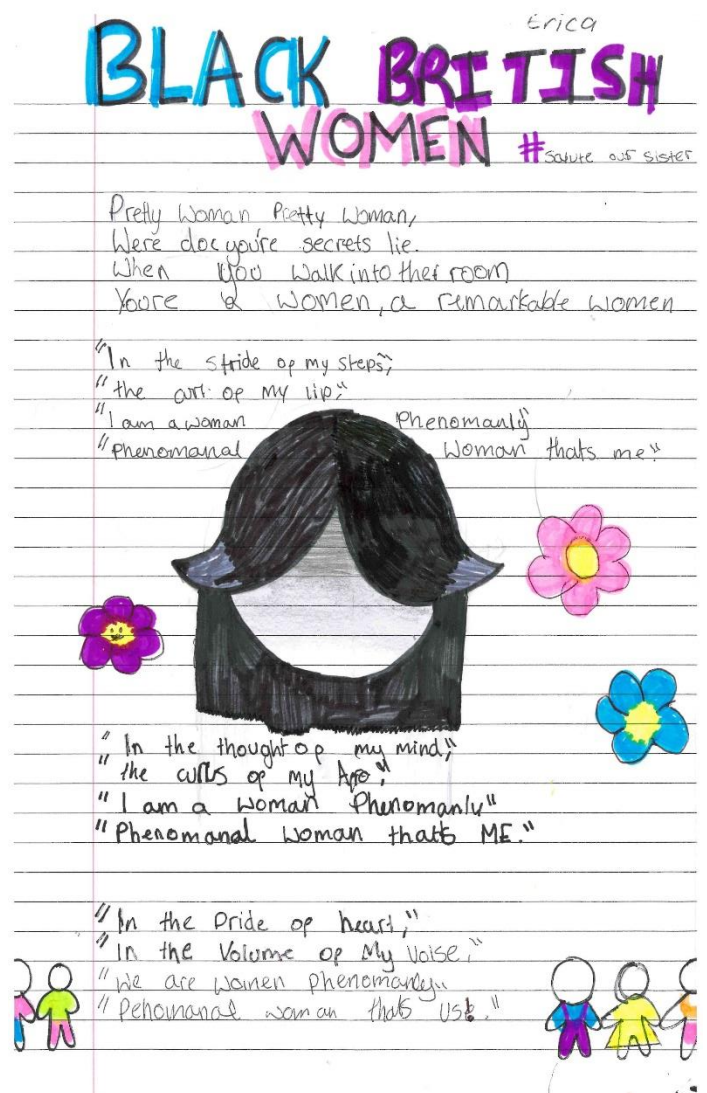
1st Prize – Sarah B (year 7)

Sarah says there's gorgeous black girls in
Chatham
These black girls need to be noticed more
Be on model runway
Not for our beauty to be wasted
On top of that I wanna see them on sports teams
Look at our afro crowns
Natural and amazing
Kinky 4b curls soft and clean
Cuz black girl magic is sometimes blue
I broke a hair band or two
Raise my voice ur gonna say that I'm angry
Kiss my teeth ur gonna say that I'm hood
Kid at 16 u say that's how I'll turn out
Drive a ranger say I'm up to no good
Give us our respect
Let us breath man
Give us a chance let us achieve something
And we know that our hair looks a bit different so
don't touch our hair

2nd Prize – Rashawn K (year 11)

Inside of Black
There is a hidden gem
Under the darkest mines the diamonds laid
God Called light out of darkness
A miracle is born from the darkness of a womb
The darkest place beneath the ocean is covered in
vibrant colours
The mother land homes the most beautiful
creatures
Black is creative and talented
Black culture captivates the whole world
Black is unique in its true form
I am all that is black

3rd Prize – Erica C (year 8)



Special mentions to Kaya T (year 7), Naomi O (year 7), Luke T (year 8), Scarlett M (year 8), Leah H (year 9), Shaeyla H (year 10), Mariam D (year 10), Chineye O (year 10) and Megan C (year 13).

History

Student Spotlights

Miss Cullen would like to spotlight the following students for their accomplishments in History:

<u>Year 10</u>	<u>Year 11</u>	
Mehran I	Harrison W	Kayan R
Benjamin S	Tobias T	Sophie A
Gabriellis R	Yaw N	Marie F
Isabella F	Patrick M	Nikita S
Danny W	Camron T	Cameron O
Lilly-Jean O	Mirsa K	

Mr Willicombe would like to spotlight:

Danny W (year 10) – commitment to History Mystery Club as one of our longest attending members. Danny has also designed the new posters for the club which will be going up around the Academy.

Zara L (year 7) – in her first year at Victory Zara has shown in class and clubs her commitment to finding out more about the past.

Rowan (year 10) – commitment to colour coded note taking and GCSE study both in and out of class.

Miss Dower would like to spotlight:

Esther A (year 7) – for being consistently fantastic with engagement in lessons, written work and help around the class.

Miss Slater would like to spotlight all of the following for excellent work in History during terms 1 and 2:

<u>Year 9</u>	<u>Year 10</u>	<u>Year 11</u>
Sariah T	Megan C	James H
Shanice G	Callum R	Laura K
Cody C	Mariam D	Elizabeth G
	Sophie H	Georgina M
	Sofia S	Junior A
	Frankie S	Jessica T
	Ameera A	Joe N
	Julija K	Rosa K
	Kaiya C	

THE HISTORY TIMES

HOW THE BRAIN WORKS?

WHY ARE WE SPEAKING ABOUT THIS?

Well, history club isn't all about history but more of the mystery side of history. Today we will be speaking on how the brain over time was discovered and how we realise on how we work on learning it today!

FIRST DISCOVERY.

To start off we won't be speaking about just the Egyptian era but mostly about medieval era to modern. Islamic medicine in the Middle Ages was focused on how the mind and body interacted and emphasized a need to understand mental health. Circa 1000, Al-Zahrawi, living in Islamic Iberia, evaluated neurological patients and performed surgical treatments of head injuries, skull fractures, spinal injuries, hydrocephalus, subdural effusions and haematomas. In Persia, Avicenna presented detailed knowledge about skull fractures and their surgical treatments. Avicenna is regarded by some as the father of modern medicine. He wrote 40 pieces on medicine with the most notable being the Qanun, a medical encyclopaedia that would become a staple at universities for nearly a hundred years. He also explained phenomena such as, insomnia, mania, hallucinations, nightmares, dementia, epilepsy, strokes, paralysis, vertigo, melancholia and tremors. He also discovered a condition similar to schizophrenia, which he called Junun Mufr, characterized by agitation, behavioural and sleep disturbances, giving inappropriate answers to questions, and occasional inability to speak. Avicenna also discovered the cerebral vermis, which he simply called the vermis, and the caudate nucleus. Both terms are still used in neuroanatomy today. He was also the first person to associate mental deficits with deficits in the brain's middle ventricle or frontal lobe. Abulcasis, Averroes, Averroes, and Maimonides, active in the Medieval Muslim world, also described a number of medical problems related to the brain. Between the 13th and 14th centuries, the first anatomy textbooks in Europe, which included a description of the brain, were written by Mondino de Luzzi and Galdo da Vigevano.

COME TO HISTORY CLUB TO FIND OUT MORE!

Research

How Tuesday 16 November 2023
How did Hitler become Chancellor in January 1933?

Wall Street Crash
Hitler invited to become Chancellor of Germany
16 million unemployed
Nazi's secure 37% just 3% of the votes in an election
Nazi's secure 37% of the votes in an election and became the largest party in the Reichstag
Hitler invited to become Chancellor of Germany

↓

① Nazi's secure just 3% of the votes in an election-1928
② Brüning invited to become Chancellor of Germany
③

↓

① Nazi's secure "just 3% of the vote in an election
② Wall Street Crash
③ Brüning invited to become Chancellor of Germany
④ 6 million unemployed
⑤ Nazi's secure 37% of the votes in an election and become the largest party in the Reichstag
⑥ Hitler invited to become Chancellor of Germany Jan 33

In the 1932 July election the Nazi party did the best they ever had. They received 37.3% of the vote, winning the majority by the Nazis. They were the largest party in the Reichstag.

THE VICTORY TIMES

by Zachary Davis

Reporting on the Black Death our King Edward III is bearing plague victims in West. Some they did also call the condition. Plague it's our King Edward III's... from West... getting in Black

Death and hiding them... behind the city walls... please please... don't visit our... unless you... have a body bag... a plague victim who has been dead. They have many spaces!

Symptoms if you have buboes which are red and swell black dot to you have the black death. Coughing. Please be safe seek a doctor. unwell or feel.



Performing Arts

The Variety Show

A huge well done to all the students who auditioned for The Variety Show. We had over 50 auditions involving singing, dancing, acting and instrumentalists. The casting list was put up on the notice board and since then students have been working very hard on rehearsing their performances for the show.

The show took place on Tuesday 12th December. It was lovely to see so many students involved and to see different year groups working together. They have shown dedication, motivation and excellent communication skills with each other during this process. The show was a chance for students to show their own work and they did a fantastic job! A huge well done to all involved.



Matilda the Musical Trip

The Performing Arts department took our Matilda Jr cast from the summer show to see 'Matilda the Musical' in the West End, London. This was a fantastic opportunity for students to experience live theatre, especially a show that they had put on at the Academy in July. They had a fantastic trip and were very lucky to meet one of the cast members from the new Netflix film!



Witness for the Prosecution

Our year 10 students recently had the opportunity to experience the benefits of live theatre. As part of their exam requirement, students must watch and review a live theatre performance. They travelled by train into the hustle and bustle of London's South Bank, to watch the Agatha Christie suspenseful thriller 'Witness for the Prosecution'. This production, directed by Lucy Bailey, is famously set in a court room with members of the audience acting as the jurors. The students were gripped from the opening scene, each one trying to uncover the killer and the masterful plot. The students found the experience to be a great source of inspiration for their own practice and current devising unit of their exams. Many loved the concepts of twists and immersive aspects of performance.



Performing Arts

Voices of the Holocaust

On Thursday 9th November we welcomed 'Voices of the Holocaust' to the school with their professional performance of 'Kindness'. The testimonies from Holocaust survivors were told through theatre with stunning lighting, set, and an outstanding standard of acting by the touring theatre company. With descendants of Holocaust survivors amongst our student audience, this spurred on many healthy discussions afterwards regarding a desire to find ways to explore our own histories further to enable us to continue to learn from the atrocities others lived through.

The company also provided a number of valuable workshops, the first of which had year 10 Drama students benefitting from a two-hour workshop exploring the themes and drama techniques used for verbatim theatre to support their upcoming exam text. Students delved into actual Holocaust survivor testimonies and using music, were stretched to find physical ways to present the emotions of the testimonies held. Our performers excelled themselves, providing multiple inspiring moments during this workshop, embodying the depth of emotion and maturity that made both Mrs Clarke and Mrs Voisey very proud and honoured to witness.



Year 11 Drama students stepped into the world of verbatim, their exam text style, through a Laban workshop. The workshop leaders commented on having never experienced a group with such energy and camaraderie, tackling every challenging activity with enthusiasm and commitment. This workshop provided year 11 with practical approaches to respectfully work with testimonies whilst creating engaging characters to explore sensitive content.



The workshop enabled students to apply the practical techniques they will write about in their written exam later this year, as well as develop Laban characterisation skills to stretch and challenge their own acting in their upcoming scripted exam performances.

The final workshop of the day, after the performance, provided a selection of year 9 Drama students additional verbatim testimonies to explore, with students being stretched to bring survivors' words to life in their own workshop performances. Mrs Clarke commended the students for their maturity and bravery in tackling such a sensitive material with creativity and depth, with outstanding contributions including adding text with their own family's experiences.



Mrs Voisey commented on how this creative, yet emotional, day had showcased the wealth and depth of talent in our students, successfully exploring a poignant historical event with empathy, eloquence and an emotional physicality that stretched and challenged all who took part.



Sex Ed the Musical

'Sex Ed the Musical' was a huge hit with our Drama students in years 10 to 13, showcasing excellent verbatim and Brechtian theatre techniques and providing an interactive, confidence-boosting Q&A workshop and professional production. The Ice and Fire theatre company were blown away by the wisdom and empathy showcased by our students. Perfect ambassadors for Victory, our students championed the reason why we remain a Platinum Artsmark school and re-emphasised the power of the arts and its impact on society and community. The four actors showcased outstanding standards in acting, singing and ensemble work in their PSHE production, having devised a performance based on verbatim accounts from teenagers across the country.

The musical sensitively explored consent, pleasure and sexuality with equal measures of comedy and poignancy, showing our talented performers how comedy and sensitivity can impact on an audience and how delicate subjects can be approached in a child-friendly manner. Students commended the actors' ability to perform stunning harmonies, creative movement motifs and podcast accounts to blend the comedy and education harmoniously for maximum impact. Mrs Voisey and Mrs Clarke would like to thank Ice and Fire for their fantastic and thought-provoking show.



ZooNation Dance Workshop

This term our year 10 and 11 Performing Arts students took part in a professional workshop led by the dance company ZooNation. The students were taught choreography from the London show 'Some Like It Hip Hop' by Bradley Charles. The students worked hard and received lovely feedback. Bradley Charles - "The students showed professionalism and dedication to the workshop and were polite and hardworking."





PE

Clubs

The Victory PE department kicked off the year with an excellent extra-curricular programme in term 1 of the 2023-24 Academic Year. Our students had missed these clubs over the summer holidays and we therefore needed to provide even more opportunities for them to participate in sport. It is great to see all of our students enjoying Fitness Club, Football, Badminton, Basketball, Boxing, Netball, Table Tennis, Rugby and the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

All of the clubs will be back with a bang in January 2024 so make sure to keep a look out for the Term 3 Club Timetable.

SSG Rugby Sevens



Huge congratulations to Lillie, Heidi, Olivia S, Olivia M, Taylor, Kikki and Hannah for their amazing performance at the SSG Rugby Games. The girls had a training session in the morning, along with seven other Medway schools, and then battled hard against three different schools.

For a team that had never picked up a rugby ball before, they had a cracking performance – putting in some brilliant try-saving tackles! All the teams showed incredible comradery, supporting one another through training and throughout the games. Congratulations to all involved!

The results were as follows:

- The Victory Academy 4 St John Fisher 2
- The Victory Academy 2 Rainham Girls 6
- The Victory Academy 3 Rochester Grammar 4

Duke of Edinburgh Award

We have had a fantastic uptake of the Duke of Edinburgh Award this year with 22 students signed up to take part in the Bronze Award.

Our students have downloaded their eDofE accounts and are currently uploading information for three of their four individual sections; Physical, Skill and Volunteering.

For their Physical section students are involved in different activities such as Boxing, Hockey, Football, Walking, Badminton and Fitness. For the Skill section we have students learning Sign Language, Photography, Cookery, Art and Piano. Finally, for the Volunteering section they have committed to help work in charity shops in the local area, Reading Club within the Academy and at the local library, coaching at different sporting clubs, and volunteering to support other charities. All of these sections are building towards our two-day expedition at the end of the Academic Year. Massive congratulations to our 2022 cohort who received their Bronze Award. Well done Nathaniel A, Carla Y, Mollie C, Ellie C, Jessica T, Ellie F, Georgina M and Scarlett L.



PE



SSG Badminton

Congratulations to our two Key Stage 3 Badminton teams for their recent matches at the SSG Badminton Competitions. On Monday 27th November our girl's team had a fantastic competition day and achieved fifth place. Well done to Amina H, Andra S, Rosie N and Ashley M for their outstanding play.

On Monday 4th December our boys team finished fourth place in the B competition. Well done to Beneti B, Amir O, Ethan D and Daniel I on their great performance.



Basketball

Term 2 has seen the start of our Basketball clubs and the Medway Basketball League. We have lots of Basketball fixtures coming up in term 3 for all of our year groups. Basketball Club runs after school on a Thursday for all year groups, as well as training sessions before school on a Thursday and Friday and lunchtime. Everyone is welcome to attend these sessions.

Netball

This term saw the PE department promote a Netball club to KS3 and KS4 students. We now successfully have year 9 and year 10 teams training every week, and we are looking for year 7 and 8 players to build a team. In term 3 and moving forward, we have been touch with several local schools to arrange fixtures for all year groups and it will be a great opportunity for our students to represent the Academy in these. Please keep an eye on the club timetable and speak to Mrs Williams if you are interested.

Sporting Achievement

Congratulations to Taylor S (year 8) on becoming the ISKA Kickboxing British Open Champion 11-13!



PE

Football Fixtures

Despite playing some good football in term 1, the year 7 and 8 teams both had two opening narrow defeats. They will be looking to get some points in term 4 when the season returns. Well done to all of our year 7 and 8 players who have played in fixtures and attended training sessions.

The year 9 team have been in excellent form during the start of the season in term 1. They have won three out of three games, defeating Strood Academy, St John Fisher and Thomas Aveling. They have score 13 goals in those three games and currently sit top of the league. A special mention to Carvell M and Ephraim A who have been playing up a year. The year 9 team will look to continue their good form in term 4 and win the league.

The year 10 team started the season really strongly by defeating Brompton Academy 3-1 and Strood Academy 3-2. They will look to improve on this in term 4.

A huge well done to all of the players that have taken part so far in our games and for displaying great attitudes and determination. We look forward to games returning in term 4.

Health & Social Care Cinema Workshop

On Tuesday 28th November eight year 13 Health and Social Care students accompanied Mrs Tosh and Mr Power to attend the pre-exam revision session at Vue Cinema, Westfields, Stratford. The interactive session, led by highly experienced lecturers, was a positive addition to the students' learning in the build up to their January exams. With engaging activities and many resources to take away, our students had a great time and are now a step closer to being prepared for their exam after Christmas.



Maths

UKMT Senior Maths Challenge

Congratulations to our A Level mathematicians who took part in this year's UKMT Senior Mathematics Challenge. This is a national competition for Sixth Form students, testing their problem solving and mathematical reasoning skills. Thirteen of our students took part this year.

Josiah K, Nikita M and Blessing I gained Bronze certificates. Josiah won the Bronze award for the second time in a row and Nikita gained the best mark in the Academy. Well done to all the students who took part!



MFL

Language Ambassadors Trip

On Thursday 30th November our five Language Ambassadors went to New Horizons Children's Academy. They did an excellent job delivering Christmas-themed French activities to three classes of year 6 students. They showed great teamwork and enthusiasm, and it was an overall success with New Horizons inviting us back next term.



Food Technology

Practical Lessons

Year 7 fruit crumble



Year 10 lemon drizzle cake



Year 11 millionaire's shortbread



Thank you for reading this edition of The Victory Academy Newsletter. Our next issue will be published at the end of term 4. On behalf of everyone at Victory we would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Contact Us

The Victory Academy

Magpie Hall Road

Chatham

ME4 5JB

0333 360 2140

office@thevictoryacademy.org.uk

