

MAY 21

CEDAR NEWS

SPRING HALF TERM - THE ACADEMY WILL REOPEN ON MONDAY 7TH JUNE



Message from Mr Hodgson



Welcome to the latest CMA newsletter. It is a delightful read and shows once again our commitment to giving students a robust, knowledge-rich, purposeful and rounded education. The school has never been more vibrant and optimistic. Students are full of respect for each other and the opportunities they have been given. I have enjoyed sitting in several lessons recently; it is a delight to see our pupils engaged, thinking, challenging themselves, smiling and quite simply enjoying being in school. I regularly talk of our aim to create global citizens ready for whatever future comes their way, and I am pleased that so much of our work supports this.

Outside of the classroom, with our commitment to anti-racist working, we have been surveying the school community to ensure we can work with everyone to do our very best to tackle this global issue. Equally, outside the classroom, we have seen a continual increase in students accessing extra-curriculum sport. Given the constraints and challenges of the lockdown, we believe physical activity is more important than ever. And so, I urge you to ensure your child keeps active throughout their time at CMA and beyond. Poets TS Eliot once wrote:

Time past and time future

What might have been and what has been

Point to one end, which is always present.

We cannot control all aspects of the future, but as I said to Year 11 on the last day of their compulsory schooling, hard work will give pupils the ability to control and change their future, more ownership and more autonomy.

Have a wonderful half-term

Mr Hodgson



The best *for* everyone,
the best *from* everyone

Head boy and girl, Chloe Kerfoot and Stephen Quansah have been selected from their applications to join the Youth LeaderBoard Academy with Sporting Equals a national partner of Sport England. They had the opportunity to apply to be part of the Youth LeaderBoard Academy whilst taking part in a Unified Action Programme with the Youth Sport Trust.

Unified Action, a new rapid pilot using the power of sport, is launching in five cities to connect young people with their communities, create greater diversity in sports governance and civil society, and ensure young people's voices are heard.

Thanks to funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government through the Faith, Race and Hate Crime Grant Scheme, national children's charity the Youth Sport Trust with support from organisations such as Sporting Equals and 2-3 Degrees will be leading a consortium of more than 30 organisations on Unified Action.

Jenna Downing our athlete mentor has lent a helping hand to inspire and support our young people involved in the project. The project will bring together young people from all backgrounds, opening new opportunities and providing them with a platform to have their voice heard. Sporting Equals have three primary aims:

- 1) To raise awareness and understanding of the needs of Ethnically Diverse Communities within the sports and health sector, to change attitudes and increase participation in sport and physical activity.
- 2) To empower individuals and communities to play a part in this change, and achieve their full potential through playing sport and being active.
- 3) To advise and support policy-makers and delivery bodies to be inclusive of all under-represented groups, drawing on our experience with Ethnically Diverse Communities.

They will join a group of young people aged 16-26 to develop their leadership skills to help and support them become leaders of the future. They will begin with training virtually whilst working together to support challenge and change in inclusion.



MATHS

This term, Y7 pupils constructed their own maths clock as part of a project to reinforce their numeracy skills and practice solving problems involving time. After pupils had wrote the calculations around their clock faces the most interesting designs were selected from each class from which an overall winner was then chosen. Clock faces completed, clock mechanism attached and batteries in hand, pupils were clearly eager to take home and show off their new maths clocks. Congratulations the winning design went to Eshaal Hamayoun. Well done Y7.



FOOD TECH & ART



Click the picture and take a virtual tour round the Year 11 GCSE Art Exhibition

Despite the lockdowns and disruption to learning, the Year 11 GCSE Art students have risen to the challenge and demonstrated tremendous amounts of resilience. They developed personal and imaginative responses to their themes from Animal Cruelty to Vanity. One student took three months to create their stippled artwork! Miss Nortley will miss their incredible creativity and is proud to have supported each student on their creative journey. We will be looking forward to seeing their work in the future as they continue their education in Computer Gaming Design, Graphic Communication, and Fine Art, but for now, let's celebrate their accomplishments by clicking the link to the online exhibition CMA Art Exhibition



After Easter, the Food and Nutrition Department welcomed three new teachers who rose to the challenge of teaching students to cook savoury delights such as homemade bread, pizzas, quiche, chocolate chip cookies and Miss Bennett's speciality.... chocolate cheesecake! It has been a delight watching all the students explore new dishes and learning new cooking techniques. A big thanks to Mr Walker, Ms Scott, Ms Bennett and Ms Gill for stepping up to support the department and Sandra, Carol and Katherine, who are always on hand to assist the teachers with demonstrations and practicals. They make the teachers lives easy by ensuring our larder is stocked with ingredients to create delicious recipes.



ANTI-RACISM UPDATE

Student voice

The staff anti-racist working group meets after school every few weeks and this term we have focussed on student voice. Every student in Year 9 to Year 11 has had the opportunity to answer questions about their experience at CMA in regards to racism, the curriculum and suggestions for how we can improve. Year 8 and Year 7 students will be given time in SCHOLAR sessions to complete the questionnaire too. Those responses are being analysed so we can establish some priorities for change going forward. These ideas will be shared with students in SCHOLAR sessions next half-term.



Staff training

We also delivered a whole staff training session that looked at these student responses. Year 11s from the student anti-racist group recorded their testimonies of occasions when they felt as though staff could have dealt with situations differently or have used inappropriate language and these videos were played to staff. In smaller groups, staff then reflected on this and discussed the impact that hearing this first hand had on them. This was a positive session and forms part of a long-term commitment for training staff.



Exclusion data

Mr Hodgson has analysed our exclusion data to see if there are any trends. We will share the findings on the school website. Miss Desideri is co-ordinating the creation of a section on the website dedicated to our anti-racism work.

Discriminatory incident protocol

Mr Wilson has led on developing a discriminatory incident protocol to ensure that accusations of racism, homophobia and other discriminatory behaviour are dealt with appropriately. If students feel as though they have been a victim they should report this to their PL or a member of staff they trust. This incident will then be investigated by someone appropriate and students will get feedback on how it has been dealt with. Educating the perpetrator is a key part of this protocol. It will help students to know what they can expect from school if they are involved in an incident, whether they are the victim or the perpetrator.

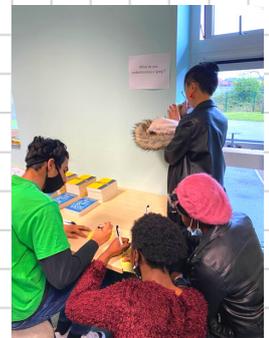


GRT history month

In June, we will be celebrating Gypsy, Roma and Traveller history month, which will include a traditional dress day, Roma heroes from staff, current affairs sessions and subject specific activities in lessons. Miss De Fraja and Mr Negru are leading on this.

Kids of Colour

Every Thursday at 5pm students of colour have a Zoom call to talk about race. Last Saturday we had a session in school where students from Y7-11 discussed anti-blackness, "gangs" and the impact of social media on racism. If you are interested in joining these meetings, speak to Miss Morris.



The Halo Code

We launched the Halo Code in school, with Cherry and Shulamite delivering an assembly on natural Black hair with Year 9.

Thank you

The anti-racism work is a priority for the academy and we are determined to make sure students of all backgrounds feel as though their culture is celebrated and their voice is heard. This is a long-term project that will take time for us to get right. We are so grateful to the students who have already contributed to this and welcome your input going forward.



HALF TERM FUN

Over the Spring Half-Term school holidays MCRactive are running FREE Water Activity Sessions for kids aged 8-16 years at Debdale Outdoor Centre. All sessions will be delivered by qualified coaches and will follow Covid-19 guidelines. At each venue the sessions will run over four dates;

Tuesday 1st – Friday 4th, 9.00-4.00pm. A lunch / refreshments will be provided to all young people.

Click on the link to book a session

<https://bit.ly/3uS8MUO> or email/tel Daniel Robinson d.robinson@mcractive.com or 07703 528 806.



AND FINALLY.....

On Thursday we said our fond farewells to the class of 2021. As is the case every year, it never gets any easier saying goodbye and the day is marked with laughter, tears and embarrassing photographs in a celebration assembly. They've had the most challenging end to a school year but, their strength and determination have carried them through and they surprised the staff with their resilience and adaptability when it came to online learning. This, we hope, will stand them in great stead for the rest of their lives so, from all the staff at CMA we wish them all a fantastic future and look forward to seeing them in the summer when they collect their results.



2021