

Achievement

THE PLATANOS COLLEGE MAGAZINE

Summer 2016

Platanos College

One of the Best in the
Country for Pupil Progress
at GCSE

Platanos College has this year received national recognition from The Schools, Students and Teachers Network (SSAT), for the value it adds to pupils' achievement at GCSE.

The school has qualified for a second consecutive year, the SSAT Educational Outcomes Award by being in the top 10% of schools nationally for progress made by pupils between their key stage 2 results at primary school and their GCSE results at age 16.

“I hope that SSAT's Education Outcomes award will highlight the professionalism, commitment and hard work of the leaders, teachers and students at Platanos College.”

Recognising and sharing successes like this is at the heart of SSAT's mission, so I'm delighted to congratulate Platanos College on their achievement.”

Sue Williamson, Chief Executive of SSAT



Scholarships launched at Platanos College

Platanos College has introduced new scholarships and bursaries from September 2016.

New pupils joining the school will be eligible to apply for scholarships in Science, Maths, Art, Music and Business and Enterprise.

In addition, up to 10% of new Year 7 places from September 2016 onwards will be designated for applicants showing potential or aptitude in Art or Music.

These prestigious scholarships will allow the most able pupils access to additional provision, including extra master classes, tuition, and overseas trips and workshops delivered by experts specific to the discipline.

Full details can be found on the school website: www.platanoscollege.com.



Gold is the Word

We are delighted that Platanos College has remained as an invited member of The Mayor's London Schools Gold Cub for excellent schools, for the third consecutive year.

The Club recognises excellent schools that have succeeded in raising pupils' achievement and aspirations. Since the Club's inception three years ago, Platanos College has been one of the very few schools who have qualified as a member in each and every year.



"Congratulations to Platanos College for its outstanding achievements and for the hard work of its pupils and teaching staff. London schools are going from strength to strength and our Gold Club members are testament to the fact all schools can aspire to attain excellence for all their pupils, whatever their circumstances."

Boris Johnson, The Mayor of London

The Good Schools Guide Award



THE
GOOD
SCHOOLS
GUIDE

Platanos College has also been nominated in the Good Schools Guide Award 2016. The award is in recognition of the school's consistent performance and excellent teaching in comparison to schools across the country.

The award is based on calculations and surveys by the Good Schools Guide, the largest independent guide to UK schools.

Lambeth Achievement Awards

Platanos College are delighted to announce that many Platanos pupils were recipients of prestigious Lambeth Achievement Awards.

The special ceremony was this year a celebration of the enormous progress and achievement made by pupils across the borough.

The ceremony was opened by Councillor Walker, who spoke about the performance and success of Lambeth schools. This was followed by the awards presentations by Councillor Walker and Sean Harriss, Chief Executive of Lambeth Council.



The Royal Festival Hall, Southbank

Congratulations to our pupils:



Dante Thompson receiving his award from Councillor Walker



The event was attended by many pupils, parents and distinguished guests

Yoel Abadi
Melissa Amaro
Hanna Bagate
Antoni Fazio
Kawtar Haouache
Jason La
Kevin Lam
Ram'i Miller
Sarah Suleman
Wajid Ahmed
Helena Silva Freitas
Jennifer N'Zerasse
Krishmary Ramdhun
Dante Thompson
Hassan Saleh Abdulrahim
Shanice Collins
Genielle Alliyah Dearne
Celine Djedjemel
Deqa Awes Elmi
Gisela Fernandes
Vanessa Filipa Goncalves
Louis Karten
Katia Thi Kim Anh Le
Francisca Lopes
Catarina Pereira
Roberto-Miguel Cabas Pimentel
Lisa Tham
Joshua Robert Williams

Foundation Awards Ceremony 2015/ 2016

The annual Foundation Awards ceremony was a wonderful celebration. The awards aim to recognise the outstanding success and talent of our pupils in the foundation subjects: Art, Drama, Technology, Physical Education and Music.

The event provided a wonderful showcase of pupils' work. We have an unshakeable belief that every learner can achieve beyond their expectations. We were therefore extremely proud to see the many awards being presented to our pupils.

The key note speech was delivered by our special guest speaker, David Pickering, a performing artist and Education Administrator of the Royal Opera House, with which the school has established educational and career links.

We would like to thank the pupils, staff, parents and carers who joined us in the wonderful celebration.

Many congratulations to the following pupils for the outstanding achievement.



**David Pickering with Jamilia Karanoko and Dominik Do,
two winners of the Outstanding Overall Achievement Award**

Foundation Awards Ceremony 2015/ 2016

ART

Outstanding Progress

David Edwards
Dunnia Mahmoud
Rodrigo Jesus
Thalita Dos Santos
Ventsislav Palev
Elle Peart- Charman
Jose Cardos
Patsy Ruthven
Jerome Anoché
Shaniela Lindsay

Outstanding Attainment

Andave Ramdhun
Mya Adeboye
Rafael Rodrigues
Jasmine Scott
Asar Conten
Mariana Ribeiro
Dusan Neskovic
Rachel Phang
Jason Tran
Christina Njoku



TECHNOLOGY

Outstanding Progress

Shane Hopkins
Ngoc Nguyen
Darnel Gordon
Stephanie De Jesus
Kayden Wilson
Saida Haji
Laneil Thompson
Ziyi Yao
Gunaraj Gurung
Salma Adam

Konstantinos Parios
Bonny Kung
Ron Krasniqi
Fifi Olasupo
Daniel Gatward
Margarida Da Silva
Akene Uzoukwu
Kesi Jackson
Kaye Miller
Stephanie Nobrega

Foundation Awards Ceremony 2015/ 2016

MUSIC

Outstanding Progress

Abdul Meziane
Michael Curtis
Lara Oliveira
Daniel Payne
Rita Krasniqi
Dante Thompson
John Roberto
Salome Perreira
Julie Joram
Caroline Alves
Helena Veiga
Robert Karapetien
Jadashai Thompson
Shivaruby Premkathan

Outstanding Attainment

Sirla Abreu
Raheem Elliot
Claudia Mendez
Larissa Diacos
Laura Oliviera
Abbie Messenger
Jessica Djondo
Emina Salesvic
Jaelan Inglic
Fifi Olasupo



DRAMA

Outstanding Progress

Asar Conteh
Iqra Elmi
Cluadia Mendes
Laura Oliveira
Abbie Messenger
Jessica Djondo
Emina Salesvic
Jaelan Inglic
Fifi Olasupo
Jadashai Thompson
Shivaruby Premkathan

Outstanding Attainment

Bryan Teles
Daneshai Thompson
Daniel Payne
Rita Krasniqi
Dante Thompson
John Roberto
Salome Perreira
Julie Joram
Caroline Alves
Helena Veiga
Robert Karapetien

Foundation Awards Ceremony 2015/ 2016

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Outstanding Attainment

Denilson Cashili
Lianna Calvert
Jahiem Ford
Sirla Abreu
Wilfred Santhe
Carolina Ferreira
Roger Costa-Quiroga
Natalie Paredes Alvis
Keven Ordonez
Sarah Bello

Outstanding Progress

Elvis Davidson
Oluwadamilola
Ron Krasniqi
Tatiana Teofilo
Ramal Watson-Chinloy
Kelly Saravia
Dominik Do
Kelsia Pires-Costa
Joao Cuoto
Jamila Karamoko

OUTSTANDING OVERALL ACHIEVEMENT

Ngoc Nguyen
Leo To
Sirla Abreu
Ron Krasniqi
Vicky Do Mai
Ventsislav Palev
Patsy Ruthven
Dominik Do
Jamila Karamoko
Gunaraj Gurung



"It is very reassuring to see that my child has been recognised for awards again this year."

Year 9 parent

Pupil Leadership

Head Boys and Head Girls

Congratulations to Adam Seridji, Dominic Borilla Castro, Sajidha Rahman and Julie Dao who were elected Head Boys and Head Girls.

Traditionally, only one pupil is elected for each role. However, based on the pupils' election speeches and academic and leadership credentials, it was an unanimous agreement that all four pupils were deserving of the roles.

This is the first time two pupils have shared the same title.



Head Boys and Girls, Adam Seridji, Dominic Borilla Castro, Sajidha Rahman and Julie Dao

Presidents

Following brilliant election campaigns delivered by our pupil candidates earlier this year, we are pleased that our elected Presidents and Vice Presidents exceeded our expectations and served their full terms this year. Many congratulations to the following:



**Year 7 President
Robert Karapetian**



**Year 7 Vice President
Andave Ramdhun**



**Year 8 President
Mohamed Sheikh**



**Year 8 President
Jasmine Scott**



**Year 8 Vice President
Camila Albuquerque**



**Year 8 Vice President
Michael Curtis**



**Year 9 President
Keni Duguma**



**Year 9 Vice President
Miseb Gjetaj**



Books donated by local bookshop

World Book Day

The Library and Reading Room were buzzing with the sound of enthusiastic and passionate book lovers, as pupils celebrated World Book Day.



Year 8 pupil participating in one of the competitions



Year 8 pupils enjoying their favourite books

Over the course of the day, pupils participated in a number of competitions and activities centred around reading. Pupils also brought in books to participate in a book swap.

Selected pupils used their business and enterprise skills into use by holding a book sale. The profits raised were used to purchase new books for the library.

We were also fortunate to receive books from a local bookshop.



Pupils at the book sale

Prevention Workshop

The world of social media is often where extremists recruit and radicalise young people.

Our Year 9 and Year 10 pupils participated in a prevention workshop with the star of the YouTube series Diary of a Badman, Hamza Arshad.

The film is shown as part of anti-extremism lessons led by trained counter-terrorism officers. The aim of the workshop is to educate students about the dangers of being groomed into extremist ideology.

Lessons like this are trying to counter the narrative of hate teenagers maybe exposed to.



Diary of a Badman, Think For Yourself film.



Pupils were thoroughly engaged with the presentation.



Trips to Enhance Learning

"I really enjoyed visiting the British Museum today. There were so many interesting objects and artefacts to look at."

"We got to see and touch real artefacts that are over 200 years old!"

Year 7 pupil

Our key stage 3 pupils thoroughly enjoyed our the recent programme of trips to enhance learning. We believe these experiences expand the horizons of young people, opening their eyes to the wonders such as art, heritage, culture, adventure and the natural world.

Pupils were offered a choice to visit the British Museum, the Science Museum, the Natural History Museum, or the Olympic Park. Each venue provided a setting for them to learn in a more hands-on and interactive manner and to help them develop the skills for critical observation and thinking.

Capita Headquarters



Our Year 10 Business Studies pupils had the opportunity to spend the day at Capita's head office in Victoria.

This was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils to develop their understanding of Business Studies and gain an insight into the operations of Capita which is the leading provider of business process outsourcing.

Pupils were also able to participate in workshops with Capita staff which provided them with the knowledge and experience to prepare them for the world of work.

Pupils were incredibly well behaved and respectful and were commended on their outstanding behaviour.

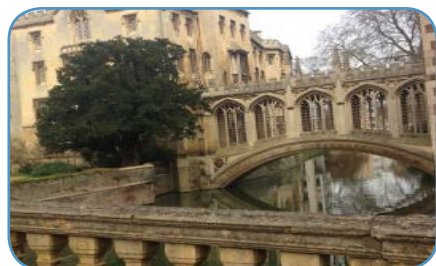


Cambridge Visit



A selection of Year 10 pupils were invited to attend an introduction to a higher education event at St John's College, Cambridge. The purpose of the event is to raise aspirations, academic attainment and to provide a realistic insight to life at a top university.

Cambridge university staff were impressed by our pupils' contributions to the workshops.



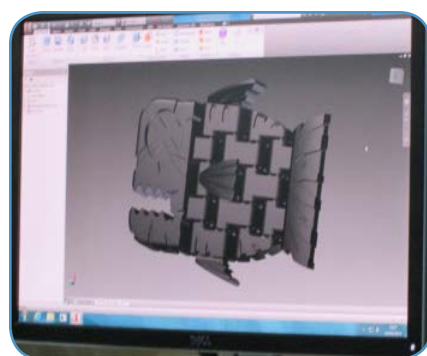
"I really enjoyed the trip to Cambridge. It was a real eye opener to what university life is like. It made me think more about what kind of university I would like to go to."

The activity I enjoyed the most, was the one where we had to budget for life at university. Admittedly, I had never really given thought to that part of going to university."

I think these trips are really valuable and would like to attend more."

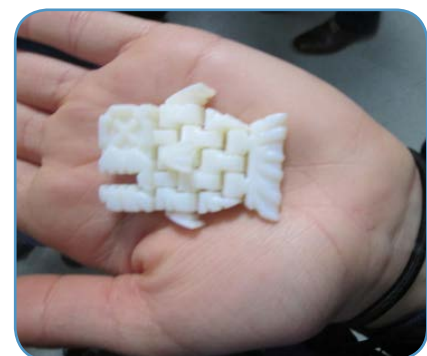
An Ngo , Year 10 pupil

Stimulating STEM Day



A selection of Year 9 girls were invited to South Bank University for a Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) Day. The event was a special showcase of the subjects, designed to encourage more women to pursue careers in the STEM industries.

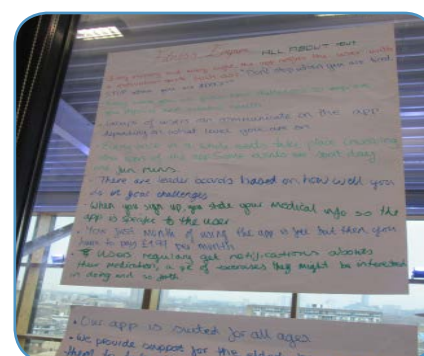
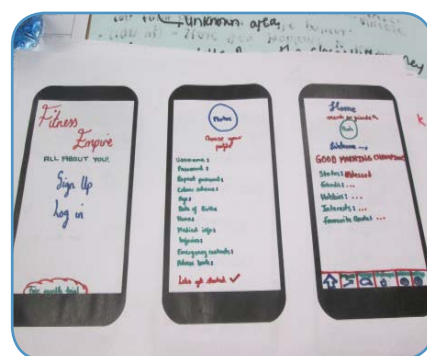
Following a tour of the STEM faculty at South Bank, the pupils attended workshops for each subject. By the end of the afternoon the girls had 3D printed a toy, experienced virtual reality and designed their own mobile phone fitness app.



The day ended with a question session with female industry professionals.

"Today was a good experience. It really made me consider pursuing a career into design engineering. I also learnt which subjects I should study at GCSE and A-Level to be able to study engineering at university."

Shyan Thomas, Year 9



Debate Mate National Competition

Members of our Debating Society competed in the Artemis Debate Mate National League and achieved some spectacular results. After debating against hundreds of other schools throughout the country, our talented pupils were ranked in the top 16 teams out of all the schools in England!

Debating forms a valuable part of pupils' development at the college. It provides pupils with opportunities to develop in multiple areas including higher order thinking, research skills, communication and leadership.



"We have been able to develop our public speaking skills, as well as our ability to construct an argument, think critically and articulate our thoughts in an eloquent manner. Our transition from our first debating session to the league competition has been incredible."

Sajidha Rahman, President of the Platanos College Debating Society



The winning team and their coach,
Ms. Jamson

"At first I was really nervous, the simulated scenarios seemed very real. However, once we started, I felt increasingly confident in myself and my first aid skills."

David Martins, Year 8

First Aid Champions

It was a great achievement for our pupils to win the overall St John Ambulance National Schools First Aid Competition. Two pupils, David and Eugenia won the pair shield by getting the most points as pairs in the competition.

Initially, the pupils were nervous as they had to perform live play roles in two scenarios using casualties, and they had to use all their skills while being assessed by St John Cadets volunteers.

It was a long day but all pupils had enjoyed the day by participating in the competition using their skills they had learnt but also improving their knowledge and understanding further.

Contingent Dinner



The army cadets with Major Davies, Officer Edwards and Officer Phipps



The exceptional progress and achievements of the army cadets' were celebrated at the prestige annual contingent dinner.

The cadets enjoyed a candlelit three course meal with their peers and instructors, before the prize giving ceremony.

Three cadets from Platanos College received awards. The awards were presented by the Headmaster of St. Dunstan's College, Nicholas Hewlett.

Congratulations to our hard working cadets.



Cadets from Platanos College



**Most Improved Year 9 Cadet,
Dante Thompson**



**Most Improved Year 10 Cadet,
Daniel Payne**



**Platanos Cadet of the Year,
Connor Hopkins**

Remembering The Fallen

Our pupils participated in several local events in remembrance of those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice. The whole school also paid their respects for those involved in the historical and recent events.



WASP Annual March Past



Remembrance Day



Lewisham Remembrance Service

NBA Star visits Platanos College



Junior NBA Champions with NBA Hall of Fame Star, Glen Rice

The NBA Hall of Fame basketball player Glen Rice treated our players to a surprise visit. As current Jr NBA champions, the players were treated to an on court session with Glen Rice and a question and answer session to end the day.

Along with this great experience, our players got the opportunity to hold the authentic NBA Championship trophy, which people outside of the NBA rarely get the opportunity to do.

Glen Rice has also challenged our players to create a short video that explains why they love the game of basketball. The eventual winners getting an opportunity to see a live NBA game at the O2 Arena.



Junior NBA champions get advice and tips from Glen Rice