



PLATANOS COLLEGE

An outstanding school for
pupils of all abilities

KS3 Newsletter

Summer Term

Friday 22nd July 2022

Attitude Determines Altitude

Key Dates / Events Calendar	
Friday 22 July 2022 – Thursday 1 September 2022	Summer Holiday
Thursday 25 August 2022	GCSE Results Day
Thursday 1 September 2022 & Friday 2 September	Staff Inset Day
Monday 5 September 2022	Year 7 (only) Start Date
Wednesday 7 September 2022	Year 8 & Year 9 Start Date
Thursday 8 September 2022	Year 10 & Year 11 Start Date
Monday 24 October 2022 – Friday 4 November 2022	Autumn Half Term Break
Monday 7 November 2022 – Friday 16 December 2022	TERM 2

Message to all of our KS3 Pupils

Welcome to the Platanos College KS3 Summer Term newsletter.

It has been another excellent year at Platanos College and everyone is now looking forward to the summer break.

It has been wonderful to witness our KS3 pupils continuing to engage with their learning both within the classroom

and beyond and many such activities are represented in this newsletter.

As the academic year draws to a close, we said farewell Year 9 pupils as they move into KS4. We wish them all the best as they commence with their GCSE courses from September.

Our KS3 pupils have had a very productive term. They recently sat their end of year assessments and are now ready to transition into the next academic year.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and I hope that your child has had a successful and enjoyable year. We thank you for working in partnership with Platanos College.

We look forward to welcoming all our pupils back in September; especially our new year 7 pupils and we wish you a very happy, healthy and well-deserved Summer break.

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Pastoral Manager using the email addresses below.

Year7pastoral@platanoscollege.com

Year8pastoral@platanoscollege.com

Year9pastoral@platanoscollege.com

**Mr Hobson, Mr Schardsmith
and Ms Daniels**

Debate Mate



Debate Mate Draws to a Close

The Debate Mate Club has sadly come to an end this year – our talented teams have taken place in several competitions since October. Debate Mate has allowed our pupils to debate on wide reaching topics, such as: the legal voting age, climate change, capital punishment, privacy laws, advertising rights and many more.

Deloitte Future Sessions

The Final Debate Mate Session of 2022 was the Deloitte Futures Session. Our members delivered sales pitches to high ranking employees of Deloitte (one of the top Consulting and Financial Advisory firms in London). Their ideas were varied, unique and innovative.

Our first team designed stationary bikes across major cities, which you can peddle to charge your phone (or any electronical device). The team aimed for these bikes to be completely free – helping those less fortunate in society and improving fitness levels!

Another team designed a subscription package for all to be able to grow plants (fruit and vegetables) at home. Focusing on health and reducing food waste in the UK.

Lastly, our third team wanted to create fully recyclable washing detergent; their aim was to reduce climate change and help to create a cleaner environment.

The Deloitte representatives were thoroughly impressed with the pupils' ideas and voiced how inspired they were with their humanitarian drive.

Pupil Voice

Ceyda (7A): *"I am very grateful for this amazing opportunity. I really enjoyed this experience; it gave me a chance to*



build my confidence. While I was presenting I was very worried and nervous but the mentors were very supportive; I was proud of myself after the presentation and I hope to do even better next year."

Joana (7A): *"I really enjoyed Debate Mate this year. I have learnt so much about debating and presenting; the club has also improved my confidence and knowledge on important issues. I am so proud of my team during the Deloitte Futures competition – we had an amazing idea which aimed to save the planet!"*

Ahmed (9C): *"I joined the debate club as I wanted to build my confidence and met new people. The Deloitte Futures competition was my favourite as there was a real chance to win money; I also thought it prepared me for the future such as interviewing for a job. I would recommend Debate Mate to others next year."*

In summary, Debate Mate has been a triumph. Pupils have developed their debating skills, presenting ability and their confidence. We can't wait to welcome old and new faces next year!

KS3 Maths Challenge

On Thursday, 28th April 2022, some of our year 7 and 8 pupils took part in the UK's most popular school competition known as the UK Maths Challenge.

UK Maths Challenge is a prestigious national competition which aims to stimulate mathematical thinking and encourage a problem-solving attitude amongst pupils. It gives pupils an opportunity to compete against other schools across the UK. The problems posed in the maths challenge not only require numerical knowledge and logical thinking but these problems test and stretch pupils' problem-solving skills and increase their familiarity with national competitions.

Results

Elom Tadesse	7A	Best in School and Silver Certificate
Rami Abera	7A	Silver Certificate
Suhayb Hassan	7A	Silver Certificate
Amira Ibrahim	7A	Silver Certificate
Ceyda Ayhan	7A	Silver Certificate
Joana Ferreira	7A	Silver Certificate
Jay-Emmanuel Jordan	7A	Silver Certificate
Sarah Maksene	7A	Silver Certificate
Mapenzi Coke	7A	Silver Certificate
Samuel Dickson	7A	Bronze Certificate
Zuhra Osman	7A	Bronze Certificate
Joshua Palmer	7A	Bronze Certificate
Eshaan Baiden	7A	Bronze Certificate
Asma Mohammed-Ali	7A	Bronze Certificate
Isaac Adu-Gyamfi	7A	Bronze Certificate
Archie Montez	7A	Bronze Certificate

Adham Ahmed	7A	Bronze Certificate
Amanah Choudhry	7A	Bronze Certificate
Eden Bowes	7A	Bronze Certificate
Kelly Oliveira	7A	Bronze Certificate
Jena Aberra	7A	Bronze Certificate
Carys Stewart	7A	Bronze Certificate
Leonardo Chagas	7B	Silver Certificate
Carys Stewart	7B	Bronze Certificate
Nawaf Yassin	7B	Bronze Certificate
Rufayda Abdulkadir	7B	Bronze Certificate
Alaa Otmani	7B	Bronze Certificate
Rakan Yassin	7B	Bronze Certificate
Mohamed Abdi	7D	Bronze Certificate



Joude Aouchiche	8A	Best in School and Silver Certificate
Hieu Hoang	8A	Bronze Certificate
Hanan Hussein	8A	Bronze Certificate
Reyan Abdulkadir	8A	Bronze Certificate
Mohammed Johar	8A	Bronze Certificate
Sumaya Hassan	8A	Bronze Certificate
Jowaad Aouchiche	8B	Silver Certificate
Alisa Coka	8B	Silver Certificate
Zhikang Chen	8B	Silver Certificate
Talia Magloire	8B	Bronze Certificate
Aaron Frimpong	8C	Bronze Certificate
Stephanie Camacho Pinto	8C	Bronze Certificate
Geoffrey Opuko	8C	Bronze Certificate
Zahra Qureshi	8C	Bronze Certificate
Ezra Agyei-Darko	8C	Bronze Certificate
Salma Khalif	8D	Bronze Certificate





Our pupils have worked extremely hard for the competition which is evident from the results of the competition and we are proud of the achievement of our pupils.

Pupil Reflections

"I feel good and proud because I have taken part in a national competition and pushed myself forward."

"I enjoy Maths very much and I would like to join more Maths competitions."

"I feel it was a good and new experience in testing my skills as I had to use all of my knowledge to answer the challenging questions."

"I feel relieved and happy because I was nervous throughout the whole challenge and now I am excited to see my score."

"I feel like this has been a great opportunity for me and a great experience. It was fun and challenging."

A big congratulations to all our participants and winners!

Ms Bajaj

Reading for Pleasure

Nothing is more immersive than a good book. When it comes to losing oneself in an engrossing novel, building factual knowledge in a fascinating non-fiction or soaking in the pages of a comic book, reading comes with many advantages. It can help us to gain a deeper understanding of the human condition, empathise with people or situations we may not have experienced in life and finally, provide an escape when life gets busy.

This year, Key Stage Three have had the opportunity to expand their reading with weekly Accelerated Reader (A.R) lessons. A.R is a computer program that helps pupils expand on their independent reading practice by selecting a book of their choice across a range of genres, from Manga to the Classics. Consequently, they spend an hour each week reading on the online platform, MyOn.

This extends the time they spend reading as well as resulting in comprehension progress as pupils can be quizzed at the end as well as write their own book reviews.

Pupils throughout the key stage have responded well to these sessions:

"Reading is important to me because it makes me feel relaxed and happy. My experience on Myon has been excellent as it has a great selection of books that boost my knowledge." – **Meleah Smith Angel, 9B**

"Myon helps you start reading more and you have wide range of free books to choose from. It also has a page counter to show how many pages you have read, which I think is very helpful." - **Lina Rigui, 8A**

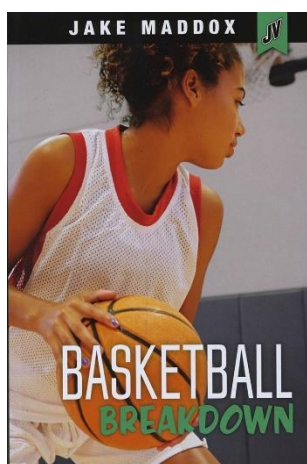
"Myon is a great website to use, especially for young readers. This is because it not only monitors your reading level and suggests books which are at your level, but it develops your brain, improves your mental health and makes you more focused and calmer." – **Sumaya Hassan, 8A**

It's never too late to start reading for pleasure. Whether it's five chapters a day or one page, you will slowly start to see the benefits. If you don't know where to start, have a look at the Platanos pupil recommendations below.



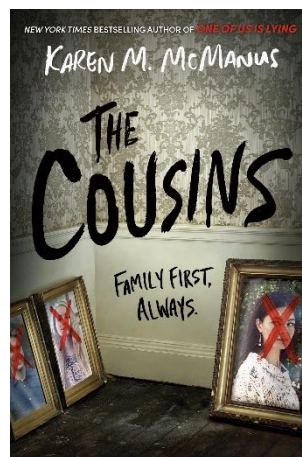
Book title: Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief
Author: Rick Riordan
Reviewed by: Reyan Abdulkadir, 8A
"I like this book. It has a creative and suspenseful story line and engaging

characters. When I started reading this book I couldn't put it down."



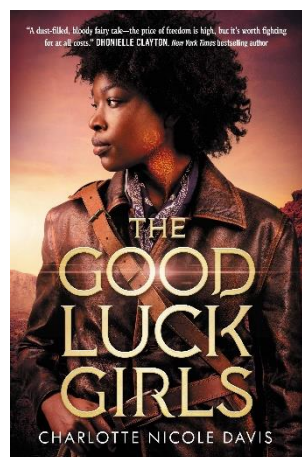
Book title: Basketball Breakdown
Author: Jake Maddox
Reviewed by: Emnet Ketema, 8A
"I give this book 5/5 because I think it can help others when they are in

difficult situations, especially when they are in a big friend group or a team."



Book title: The Cousins
Author: Karen M. McManus
Reviewed by: Virtuous Danzaria, 9A

"I really liked the book. It kept me on my toes the whole time as I awaited what mystery was to be revealed next and I would definitely give the book five stars."



Book Title: The Good Luck Girls
Author: Charlotte Nicole Davis
Reviewed by: Ameerat Daud, 9A
"This book is very interesting and you can't take your eyes off it. I

recommend it to readers that love adventure with a hint of romance and savagery."

KS3 Reading Mentor Programme

Since April, the Mentor Reading Programme has continued to be a successful initiative and Platanos College; instilling confidence in our year 7 pupils, whilst furthering the leadership qualities of our Year 9 mentors. Pupils have been reading a range of non-fiction and fiction texts such as Raheem Stirling's biography, Marcus Rashford's You are a champion, Jason Reynolds' Ghost and Terry Pratchett's The Time Travelling Caveman.

Not only does this programme help our Year 7 pupils develop integral literacy skills for their academic success, it also helps to build their oracy confidence.

This is a skill we believe is important to impress on all our pupils, so that they are able to leave education as confident and able communicators. In addition, it has also boosted the number of pupils reading for pleasure outside of the programme, which is a great achievement.

Crystal Joy Azzopardi 9A

'In my opinion, being a reading mentor has been a positive experience, allowing me to boost my own confidence and my assigned partner's confidence in reading. During registration, every Tuesday and Fridays, I would go down to the GD area and read with my mentee. Majority of the time period, I would read with my selected mentee, however, recently I've been helping out another person. With this I am able to assess different reading styles and techniques and see what methods work best with different people. Overall, the time spent being a reading mentor has been a positive one and I have no complaint on how this helps boost year 7's confidence and ability to speak aloud. I would recommend this programme to continue and happen again.'

Asmaa Yassin 9A

"Taking part in the readers mentors has helped me learn new skills, for example it has helped with my confidence, my communication and it has also helped me learn new vocabulary. I have really enjoyed seeing my year 7 mentee improve their reading and seeing all the progress they have made".

Tyrell Allen 9W

'I'm finding it really fun reading with Karnae, I enjoy helping him and having the responsibility. He picks interesting books but is reading them really quickly and every week he has a new book! Overall, I'm glad I started the programme this month.'



Karnae Murray Stewart 7W

"I enjoy the tutor reading because Tyrell will support and encourage me to keep on going if I mess up. I like my reading mentor because patient with me, and if I'm stuck he takes over the reading. It's encouraged me to read more books. Since the reading programme starter, I've enjoyed reading and learning more difficult words. I have finished four books this year and recently I went to Brixton to library and picked up 5 more! I am most excited to read the Witches with my mentor".

Mihad Saeed 7E

'It's fun to read different books with mentor. My mentor is very kind and helpful and if I don't understand she will help and even read with me sometimes. My confidence is starting to grow.'

Richard Oguejiofor 7E

'I find the reading really fun. When I find a word really Sheila helps me find the meaning and say the word properly. I feel more confidence reading out loud and have read lots of books. First, I read the Twits, I liked everything about

it, the story and the words they used. I read the Time Travelling Caveman and liked this too. Ghost is my favourite book I read with my mentor because I like running. Before I used to be scared of big books but now I am not afraid.'

We would like to, once again, congratulate all the pupils who have been involved in the Mentor Reading Programme this year. We are incredibly proud of your continuing growth in either your reading and leadership skills.

As we look to the new year, we would love for more pupils to get involved so if you can see yourself taking on some responsibility, and becoming a valuable role model then please contact your English teacher.

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Foreign Language Key Stage 3:

The club comprised of games, speaking practice using conversational cards and authentic materials in order to expand pupils' vocabulary learning.

Pupils were involved in playing games in order to develop pupils' spontaneous communication skills in the target language. Using vocabulary and conversational cards to improve pupils' fluency when speaking in the target language. Listening to authentic Spanish radio programmes, music and podcasts.

Gold awarded to Aaisha Bashir she has a very positive attitude and is always keen to participate and use the target language.

Silver awarded to Emnet Ketema has shown great enthusiasm and encourages other pupils to attend the Spanish Club.

Bronze awarded to Israe Seimi who has a positive attitude and is always keen to learn more about the Spanish culture.

Ms. Amenedo and the teachers of Modern Foreign Language shared the Homework Club has been an opportunity to improve pupils' engagement and increase their interest in Spanish through a range of interactive activities and digital resources.

We enjoyed seeing pupils in a more relaxed environment where they embraced the opportunity to make mistakes when using the target language.

The homework club has also provided me with the opportunity to create and test new activities and teaching techniques that can be included in the regular Spanish lessons and make the Spanish curriculum more creative.

Reading Club Key Stage 3:

Pupils from the Reading Club, visited Lilian Baylis Technology School, on Thursday 12th May, 2022 for the finale event of Lambeth Phoenix book Award. Rafada Abdulkadir, Reyan Abdulkadir and Mihad Saeed were awarded certificates for best effort and book review for our school.

The pupils had the opportunity to do open ended writing and opportunities in response to books read. They embarked on a variety of quizzes, challenges and book discussions; as well as the review of books written by four different authors in preparation for the annual phoenix award celebration.

The Gold award goes to Reyan and Rafada who in particular were very enthused about the club. They participated eagerly in book

discussions each session and shared their views and opinions eloquently about themes and characterisation. These are skills that they can build on in their English lessons.

The Silver award goes to Mihad who attended every club session and displayed great enthusiasm in all events.

Ms. Anderson enjoyed listening to the club members expressing their view points about what they like or dislike about books they have read.

In addition, it was lovely to hear some members relating issues from the stories they read to what is happening in the society today.

Finally, I thoroughly enjoyed watching pupils competing together in reading quizzes as well as, working together as team to read novels written by four different authors, in preparation for the 2022 Phoenix Book Award event.

Robotics Club for year 8 & 9:

This is the first year for the delivery of Robotics Club where pupils carefully build, program, experiment and test Robots to given specifications with a real industry machine technology driven scenario.

The pupils thoroughly engaged and showed enthusiasm with the building element of the bots (EV3 Lego Robots). Pupils learned and demonstrated to be able to work in teams during building the bots, resolved issues within teams, utilised online Lego support and manuals also. Unfortunately, due to a delay in charger packs, pupils were unable to complete the Lego programming. This learning is utilised for next year's improvement Robotics club improvement plan.



The Gold award goes to Jason Tran 9A he has displayed an excellent approach to technical challenges and demonstrated a higher-level utilisation of wider resource base.

The Silver award goes to Kyra Knibbs-Curtis 8A has displayed excellent participation, attendance & punctuality.

The Bronze award goes to Hanan Hussein 8A has displayed excellent team member, reliable & good approach to resolving problems.

Mr. Haque observed how team dynamics distributed roles of responsibility, how teams approached and resolved problems. It was great to see how some learners found additional tips and hints online to support the wider teams Bot development; as well as cross team collaboration in comparing Bot construction development.

History 'Fact or Fiction' Club Key Stage 3:

The pupils covered topics on the American Civil War, French Revolution, Middle Eastern Civilisation and Post War Britain.

The format of the club is that pupils watched a film based in a particular period in history.

They would then discuss and debate whether the video is truly a source of historical fact, or whether it is rooted in fiction.

The gold award goes to Sumaya Hasan 8A as she has shown great enthusiasm in developing her historical curiosity.

The silver award goes to Leonardo Loureiro 7B who diligently attends Fact or Fiction club and has shown a great passion for history.

The bronze award goes to Mihad Saeed 7E who is eager to learn about different aspects and cultures in history.

Mr. Ahmed expressed that it was most rewarding to watch the pupils so passionately discuss their opinions about a period of time; as well as seeing our pupils debate the accuracy of the films.

Science Club Year 7:

The key scientific concepts covered by Mr. Vaishampayan ranged from Electrical storage, Centre of Mass, Electricity and Stretching forces.

Pupils have enjoyed the opportunity to play around with the equipment relating to the concepts, understand the application in everyday life and then apply their conceptual ability to articulate the scientific concept associated with this.

The gold award goes to Samul Muhammed Saquib who has quickly understood key scientific concepts. In particular, he showed great collaborative and leadership skills in supporting his peers as the group attempted their extra-curricular work.

The silver award goes to Lujian Kalifa is a quiet, diligent worker who quickly understood scientific concepts.

The bronze award goes to Maya Dinesh, another quiet, diligent worker who was not shy to acknowledge her lack of knowledge, yet showed an

excellent keenness and perseverance to learn.

Mr. Vaishampayan expressed that he enjoyed seeing pupils out of their comfort zone, interacting with their peers, and overcoming challenges in a less threatening manner/environment. It was a revelation to witness some pupils being unaware of fruits and vegetables which we used in the experiments.

Mr. Vaishampayan added that seeing pupils being punctual and having the attitude of being keen to participate, got other Science teachers to identify most of the attendees as excellent Triple Science potential.

Science Club Year 8 & 9:

Pupils covered key scientific concepts such as Titration, neutralisation, Energy resources use to generate electricity, Acids and alkali.

The Science Club pupils were enthusiastic about their activities which they performed to a high standard. They were always engaged and developed new skills and acquired new knowledge during the sessions.

The first gold award goes to Hannan Hussein a creative pupil, who enjoys using the scientific method to carry her tasks.

The second gold award goes to Crystal Azzopardi who is a committed pupil, she is always careful and precise in her approach to learning new things in the science Centre of Excellence.

The first silver award goes to Michael Persaud who shows reliance and leadership qualities when doing group work during practical activities.

The second silver award goes to Caleb Chukwa he shows good enthusiasm and a thirst for learning new things and

approach his tasks with the scientific method.

The first bronze award goes to Samaya Hassan who loves exploring new ideas and enjoys working outside the formal classroom setting.

The second bronze award goes to Safara Coke who is an ever-present pupil at the Science Centre of excellence, she is work hard during activities and not afraid to try out new ideas.

Ms Browne and Mr Rigby enjoyed witnessing the pupils developing their experimental skills and scientific knowledge. It was a revelation to see pupils accurately using skills required by year 11 pupils to perform complex tasks. We were enthused by the excitement and impeccable behaviour displayed by the pupils during the activities set out on a weekly basis.

Writing Club Key Stage 3 'First story':

The pupils explored and developed their creative writing skills. Pupils worked with our writer in Residence on a range of creative tasks, culminating in a final anthology of their works.

The gold award goes to Nataly Sandoval De Freitas who has shown great enthusiasm in developing her skill and discovered a hidden talent.

The silver award goes to Daniela Ferreira Marques, she diligently attends club and has strengthened her friendship groups.

The bronze award goes to Romell Barrocks who tries his best by giving his all week-in-week out. He has not missed one week of clubs.

Mr. Etheridge, Ms. Thompson and the teachers involved have expressed that

seeing the pupils use their imaginations and, over a course of weeks, coming to an understanding that they have a talent. Also, watching the pupils turn the spark of an idea or suggestion into a fully formed and accomplished piece of writing is always inspiring.

Girls' Football Key Stage 3:

The girls focused on team building through the development of their chemistry, ball control and tactical play. KS3 girls' football has continued to be well attended this academic year. The group have continued to show great commitment, hard work and dedication in each session. The team have competed in a number of games and tournaments this academic year, demonstrating great progress. Maryam Mohammed 8A was awarded star player by the officials at two different tournaments, well deserve awards for her hard work and great team play. A highlight of the academic year is that many of the girls are now pursuing football outside of school and training with local teams.

Stephanie Candido 9B is given the gold award –she has demonstrated exceptional commitment to girls' football. Her attendance is excellent and her attitude to learning is outstanding. Stephanie is becoming more confident and is a value member of the group.

Regarding Kyara Manuel 7E, she was recognised for the silver award -Kyra has been an excellent addition to the girls' football team this academic year. She has grown in confidence over the year and continues to demonstrates great progress. She has been involved in may games this year, playing with the year 8 and 9 girls.

Boys' Year 8 Football:

The main focus was on technical development, tactics and team work. In addition, the club has provided an ideal platform for pupils to develop social skills as they have been encouraged to work in groups and on some occasions coach others.

As the sessions have progressed pupils have been exposed to a range of different technical aspects of football and have been challenged to apply these to a range of challenging scenarios that have been integral in the building of a pupil's confidence. Moreover, the above skills and techniques will help to develop pupils overall football progress and ultimately aim to impact their attainment at the end of key stage 3.

The main synopsis was to consolidate the above whilst beginning to move towards more competitive match-based sessions where pupils can develop key aspects such as decision making, tactics and teamwork. This progressed to a formal competitive football match against Oasis Academy.

The gold award goes to Ezra Darko who has shown great enthusiasm in developing his skills this year and has shown great leadership skills.

The silver award goes to Callum Hepburn who diligently attends club and has strengthened his confidence and technical ability this year.

The bronze award goes to Lloyd Lewis who tries his best by giving his all week-in-week out. He has encouraged others and set a good example of competitiveness and sportsmanship.

Mr. Paton shared that he found great satisfaction and enjoyment in seeing pupils out of their comfort zone and overcoming challenges in a less threatening manner or environment.

The pupils and I both thrived on the opportunity to compete against each other. Seeing pupils interact positively with their peers reiterates the importance of sport in uniting people and testing their character.

Table tennis Key Stage 3:

The number of pupil participation levels in table tennis club grew steadily over the course of the year. Pupils thrived on being able to play against their peers as well as across year groups; this served as a positive bridge between pupils whom under usual circumstances would not even interact with each other.

The format of the sessions varied from fun, challenging drills and tapered games to enhance the prescribed repertoire of shots. Pupils thrived on the 'round the world' knockout challenges. Another highlight of the year was the opportunity for pupils to challenge teachers on the final table tennis session of the year. This was one of the PE Department's initiatives to enhance pupil-teacher rapport.

The gold awards goes to Rami Aberra 7A for his exuberance and impeccable skills displayed on a consistent basis.

The silver award goes to Rakan Yassin 7B for his consistency and dedication to table tennis club always demonstrating the desire to challenge himself and improve.

The bronze award goes to Nawaf Yassin 7B for his consistency and dedication to table tennis club always demonstrating the desire to challenge himself and improve.

Mr. Klassen expressed that it was a great pleasure to see the development of the pupils' skill and ability moreover the camaraderie, enthusiasm and enjoyment shown when at the club. Pupils discovered so much about

themselves through competition where their resolve and determination were put to the test.

The British Dodgeball Workshop



On Friday 29th April 2022 9H and 9W girls had the opportunity to be a part of a unique and new opportunity. A scheme run by British Dodgeball Association allowed the pupils to take part in a specialised dodgeball workshop. The British Dodgeball Association were specifically targeting girls as unfortunately, there is such a decline in females in sports at an older age and they believed that this could be



a way to encourage more girls to be more active in less traditional sports.

This session was aimed at improving basic dodgeball skills, leadership, communicational skills and level of confidence. All pupils were focussed, competitive, and what was most exciting to see is that all pupils were happy and rejuvenated. This session was able to further develop pupils understanding of dodgeball and increase their confidence, leadership

and communication skills successfully with their peers.

The Boury Academy Dance Workshop

This year Platanos college had the opportunity to take part in a three-hour dance workshop which was split into 1-hour sessions for Year 7, 8 and 9. This was delivered by The Boury Academy which is a performing arts school located in the heart of the Kennington community. The workshop was aimed at KS3 pupils who have shown keen interest in dance and have demonstrated a high level of ability in dance in lessons.

During the workshop, pupils were treated to an exciting, formulated dance master-class full exciting moves, skills and routines. All pupils fully embraced the experienced, even though they were exhausted, they appreciated the opportunity to do something different and exhilarating. The workshop certainly left the pupils wanting more dance in their day to day schooling lives.

Year 9 Hampton Court Palace Trip

On Friday 8th July, the History department took 70 Year 9 pupils to Hampton Court Palace for the day. The trip was part of pupils' GCSE studies on Elizabethan England.

Pupils had the opportunity to attend a workshop focusing on Elizabethan Government and Society. The trip also gave pupils the opportunity to tour a



heritage site understanding the world of Tudor nobility.

Pupils displayed exemplary behaviour while travelling on the Underground and National Rail to Hampton Court. On arrival, pupils participated in a workshop led by a knowledgeable guide.

It was a delight to see pupils putting their knowledge to the test during a Privy Council meeting and debating the Succession Crisis of 1562 as Elizabeth's Privy Councillors would have done just over 450 years ago. This was a personal highlight for me as it was amazing to watch pupils using their debating skills which intertwined their understanding of the period, with their ability to debate to great effect.



The grounds of Hampton Court Palace delighted our pupils as they took lunch in the sunshine, and met some of the resident swans and geese. Overall, pupils were extremely positive about the day.

They were able to imagine what it was like to live in a grand house only heated by fireplaces filled with logs, and visited the vast kitchens which would have prepared feasts fit for a king.

In the afternoon, the pupils had time to visit the Tudor and Georgian parts of the palace including the chapel, kitchens, and courtyards. From this they were able to gauge religious changes, differences in Elizabethan society and gender roles.

Although some pupils had visited Hampton Court Palace previously, the trip allowed all pupils to see the site through their GCSE Learning of Elizabethan life. They found the opportunity to visit Hampton Court extremely valuable to their studies, also enhancing their understanding of aspects of life in historical and modern England.



As always, our pupils were fantastic ambassadors to the school. We received compliments from members of the public who were impressed with their behaviour and conduct throughout the day. This trip will certainly help pupils to gain a better understanding as they complete their first Formal Mock

Exam after the half term break. I look forward to the variety of trips and workshops that are to come over the course of this academic year.

Mr Garry, Hampton Court Palace trip leader.

Year 6 Induction Day

On Friday 8th July we invited all Year 6 pupils joining our school community in September to attend Platanos College for an induction day.

This is always a great opportunity for Year 6 pupils to visit the school, make new friends, meet new teachers and get to experience a day in the life of a Platanos College pupil.



It was a great day with Year 6 pupils thoroughly enjoying the experience from start to finish.



A special mention must go to the KS3 pupil representatives who supported the Year 6 pupils throughout the day, ensuring they had the best possible experience doing.

For many of the pupil representatives it was the first time they had taken on such big leadership roles due to the impact of the pandemic, the pupil representatives were outstanding from start to finish surpassing all expectations.

Pupil Representatives

Owulabi Adesoye 7D
Mariah Lewis 7D
Chloe Pinto 7W
Karnae Murray Stewart 7W
Max Scott 8C
Stephanie Camacho 8C
Shackayla Rettie 8B
Hugo Agostinho 8W
Rosangela Domingos 9H
Asmaa Yassin 9A
Reema Hassan 9A
Elisha Broadhurst 9B
Stephanie Candido 9B

Sports Leadership

Our Sport Leaders assisted at our partnership school Winterbourne Boys Academy during their Sports Day on Friday 8th July 2022. The day consisted of our leaders organising, officiating and motivating pupils from years 3 to 6. It was a very successful day, with our pupils receiving praise from both staff and parents alike.

We would like to congratulate the following pupils on their conduct and the way they championed the values of the Trust on the day.

1. Theodore Bailey - 9D
2. Nyron Ukueku-Kerr - 9D
3. Lakyshai Jagdath - 9H
4. Lemuel Oderinde - 9A
5. Mariama Diallo - 9D
6. Halimah Olatunji - 9H
7. Lloyd Lewis - 8W
8. Ezra Agyei-Darko - 8C

9. Jowaad Aouchiche - 8B
10. Sharaye Rodney - 8W
11. Shackayla Reittie - 8B
12. Klearna Richards - 8W
13. Maryam Muhammed - 8A



KS3 Academic Review Day

It was great to see so many parents and pupils brave the heat wave to attend the KS3 Academic Review Day.

This is always an important date in the school calendar as it updates parents and pupils regarding academic progress and personal development.

The also day forms an important part of the pupil's transition into the next academic year as they begin to think about targets and next steps.

Where parents and pupils were unable to attend the End of Year Report has been sent home via the post.

Year 7 Reward Trip



On Wednesday 20th July the year 7 cohort visited The Big Apple in Woking as a reward for their effort and hard work over the year. The pupils enjoyed arcade games, unlimited bowling and laser tag.



The pupils should be commended on their impeccable behaviour and the way they conducted themselves throughout the day.



It was a pleasure to see them being competitive, respectful and enjoying one and others company.



Jannah 7D *"The laser tag was really good quality."*

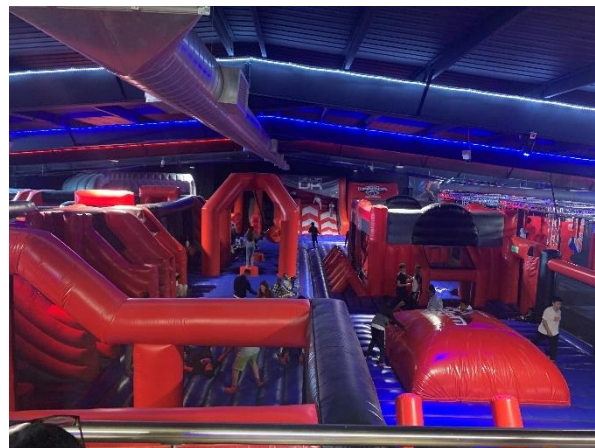
Raquel 7D *"I really enjoyed the ball game and the arcades."*

Giovanni 7D *"It was very fun, I won lots."*

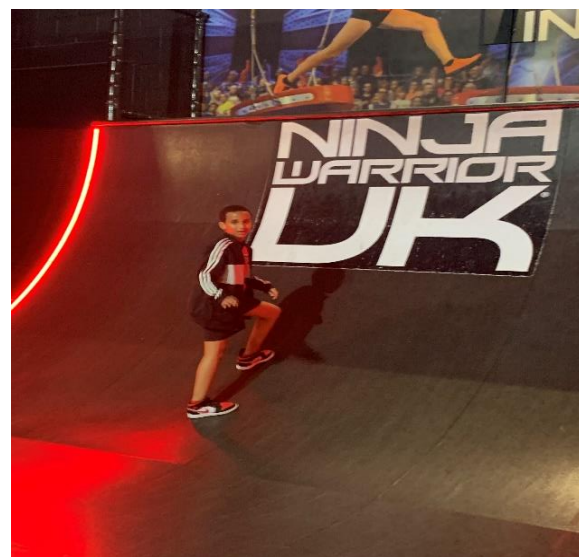
Filipe 7D *"The whole trip was very fun and the games we could play were also fun."*

Year 8 Reward Trip

Year 8 pupils were rewarded with a day trip to Ninja Warrior UK and Hollywood Bowl in Watford on Wednesday 20th July to celebrate another successful academic year at Platanos College.



The pupils spent two hours at Ninja Warrior UK climbing, balancing, jumping and swinging across different obstacles using and developing their Ninja skills, before then attempting to overcome the famous Warped Wall as seen on TV.



This was then followed with an hour of ten pin bowling at Hollywood bowl, including lunch. The pupils had a great day to celebrate the completion of another academic year.

Year 9 Reward Trip

On the 20th July 2022 Year 9 pupils and staff travelled by coach to Thorpe Park in Chertsey. The weather was perfect for a fun day with friends conquering fears on all the rides that Thorpe Park has to offer.

Stealth- Pupils and staff experienced brake horse power of two Formula 1 cars, on our giant accelerator coaster. On This hydraulic launched roller coaster propelled pupils and staff from 0-80 miles per hour in less than 2 seconds!

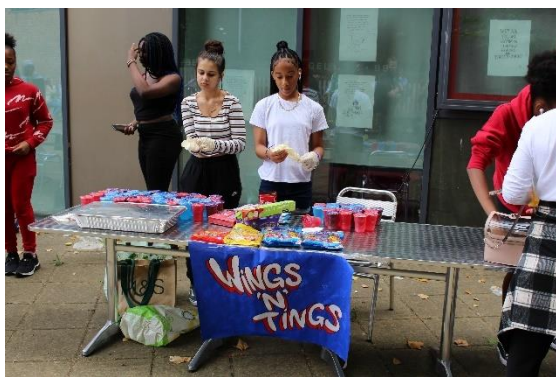
Saw-The bravest thrill-seeking pupils and staff clung tight as they faced a beyond vertical drop of 100 degrees, from a height of 100ft. Plummeting towards the ground with almost no view of the track ahead of them.

Detonator -During this ride you get a bird's eye view of the Resort at the top of our 100ft drop tower, before plunging back to earth at 50mph in this exhilarating, an extremely fast than freefall ride experience.

The trip to Thorpe Park was enjoyed by both pupils and staff and was a perfect way to celebrate KS3 coming to an end.



Business Fair



In keeping with Platanos College tradition we concluded the academic

year with the KS3 Business Fair on Friday 22nd July 2022.



Each tutor group was given a budget of £30 to create a business with aim of making as much profit as possible, all proceeds are donated to local charities.

KS3 Attendance & Punctuality

**ATTENDANCE
MATTERS.
ALL DAY, EVERY DAY**

Attendance and punctuality continue to be a key priority at Platanos College and it is arguably one of the most significant indicators of your child's academic success. If a child is not in school regularly they are not able to fully access the curriculum and learning opportunities available to them, so pupils should aim for 100% attendance as this will ensure they do not miss any learning.

We therefore ask for your support in ensuring that your child attends school every day and they arrive on time for the start of the school day.

Whilst the Academy accepts that there are times when absence from school

cannot be avoided, these occasions must be kept to a minimum.

As with attendance, punctuality to school is equally important and every minute missed adds up to a significant amount of learning time lost over the academic year. Furthermore, pupils who arrive to school late miss starting the day with their peers and the beginning of lessons. This can also disrupt the class and the teacher.

Finally, many of our Key Stage 4 pupils will also require references for colleges, sixth-form and apprenticeships etc. Consequently, punctuality and attendance will be a main factor that will feature within the school's feedback. Therefore, high levels of unauthorised absences or poor punctuality to school may hinder your child's transition into post 16 education.

Uniform Code of Conduct

Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform for their return to school:

- **This includes hair cuts which should be of a straight forward style – natural colour without lines or patterns. Lines cut into eyebrows are not allowed.**
- Boys are not permitted to wear earrings. Girls are permitted to wear a small stud in the lobe of each ear. **No other piercings are permitted.**
- Uniform includes: school blazer, school tie in house colours, formal white collar shirt, grey or black trousers (not denim), black or grey skirt for girls, black or grey socks, school shoes (not boots/ canvas shoes/ trainer style shoes).
- **Hair colour must be natural**

- For girls who wear a hijab this must be only plain dark blue, plain black, plain white or plain grey.

Pupils who return to school in January with breaches of school uniform will be sent home until this is corrected.

Equipment



Pupils are reminded to bring all their school equipment to school on a daily basis.

The following items are absolutely essential for all pupils and will be needed at all times:

- A sensible school bag
- A blue/ black pen (with spares)
- A ruler
- A pencil and pencil sharpener
- An eraser
- A Maths scientific calculator
- A dictionary
- A reading book

I hope you will be able to support us to maintain a positive learning ethos by encouraging your child to carry all the above equipment to school on a daily basis.

Many thanks in advance for your support with this.

PE Kit Reminder

In preparation for your return to school in September, below is a reminder of the schools prescribed PE kit.

All pupils are expected to have their PE kit every lesson and remember cycling shorts and leggings are not permitted. PE kit can be purchased via ParentPay through the school's website. Have a lovely summer break

PE Department

Update to Contact Details

Please ensure the school office has all your current contact details, especially your current mobile phone number and email address and advise us immediately if any of your details change.

If there are any changes, please let us know by informing the main office as soon as possible or email info@platanoscollege.com

Term Dates

SUMMER HOLIDAY

Friday 22 July 2022 – Thursday 1 September 2022

TERM 1

Monday 5 September 2022– Friday 21 October 2022

HOLIDAY

Monday 24 October 2022 – Friday 4 November 2022

TERM 2

Monday 7 November 2022 – Friday 16 December 2022

Twitter

We are on Twitter! If you want to see our latest successes as they happen follow us @platanoscollege.

#attitudedeterminesaltitude

