

PLATANOS COLLEGE ARMY CADETS NEWSLETTER

November 2023



The Army Cadet Charitable Trust (ACCT UK) is a national youth organisation whose mission is to increase young people's access to Army Cadets to improve their life prospects. The Combined Cadet Force aims to "provide a disciplined organisation in a school so that pupils may develop powers of leadership utilising training to promote the qualities of responsibility, self-reliance, resourcefulness, endurance and perseverance".

There is a lot to be gained from becoming a cadet. Partaking in cadets offers young people the opportunity to develop valuable personal abilities and build life skills like teamwork, resilience, loyalty, respect and a sense of service to others.

**ATTITUDE DETERMINES
ALTITUDE**



PLATANOS COLLEGE

COMBINED CADET FORCE (CCF)

Platanos College joined the Combined Cadet Force (CCF) in October 2013 as a partner school with St Dunstan's College. As part of the CCF, we have taken part in a variety of exciting and challenging activities such as fieldcraft, annual camps, shooting ranges, contingent dinners and public parades.

Platanos College is proud to announce that as of September 2022, we were granted the opportunity to establish our contingent here on the school grounds. We also have the privilege of being affiliated with the Royal Signals and we wear their cap badge with pride.

This was well received by both pupils and staff. Our recruitment process is a testament to this. As a new Contingent, only 30 Cadets could enrol. With over 100 indicators of interest and 50 interviews, narrowing it down was an interesting challenge for the CCF Staff. Parade Nights are every Wednesday from 1530hrs to 1730hrs.

INTERVIEW WITH PETER FARHAM FORMER MILITARY SOLDIER



On Friday, 26th May 2023, two of our Cadets (Liam Hopkins and Asma Mohammed-Ali) were selected to take part in a collaborative interview with Year Ten pupils, Khimon Friday and Rushda Ahmed. They interviewed Peter Farham, a former soldier who served with the Blues and Royals. The interview was featured in the Platanos College KS4 Newsletter July 2023 edition. Our pupils were represented as ambassadors of the CCF programme and gained insight into the different pathways and career opportunities that the British Armed Forces has to offer.

Platanos College would like to thank Peter Farham for his time, honesty and willingness to share insightful information about his journey and the career prospects available in the Army.

“In a short space of time, I have learned a lot about the Army and the experiences and advice Mr Farham provided was invaluable.”

Year 9 Liam Hopkins

YEAR 6 OPEN EVENING



Our Cadets were called to action after the summer break to represent the Contingent at the Year 6 Open Evening. Parading for parents, being tour guides and answering questions about CCF life and school, members of our contingent demonstrated their versatility and enthusiasm.

“I had a good time demonstrating drill to parents and taking questions about my time in the Cadets.”

- Beau Gritton, Year 9

UNIFORMED YOUTH ACTIVITY DAY



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On Saturday, 28th October 2023, 12 cadets were invited to take part in the Uniformed Youth Activity Day at Royal Artillery Barracks, Woolwich.

Our cadets took part in a fun and interactive day where they met Cadets from other Detachments/ Contingents. They were involved in activities and engagements led by staff from across the Army, such as an air-soft range, dog tag making, team exercises, rock climbing and flight simulators.

“It was very insightful and fun. My favourite activity was controlling the drones across a map using an iPad. We were able to change the colours of the drone” - Daniel Caneira, Year 9

REMEMBRANCE DAY



On Friday 10th November 2023, Cadets led Remembrance Day proceedings in the school building with the Headteachers, staff, Year 7s and Year 8s in attendance. They were joined by speakers across Key Stage 3 in remembering those who fought for our liberty.