

Friday 1st December 2017

RUSHEY MEAD ACADEMY

Newsletter



ISSUE NUMBER 6



Visit by Dr Suzanne Imber

On Wednesday 29th November staff and students were visited by Dr Suzanne Imber, Associate Professor in Space Physics from the University of Leicester who gave up some of her valuable time to come and talk to our students. She was the winner of the BBC2 series *Astronauts: Do You Have What It Takes?* When speaking about her experience of the BBC2 programme she said 'Taking part was an incredible experience for me, and enabled me to try things I would never have had a chance to do otherwise'.

Dr Imber did a presentation for Year 11 students at assembly and was then escorted from class to class within the Science faculty to see as many students as possible during her morning with us. Over the morning, she was able to spend time with Year 7, 10 and 11 science groups and gave a very interesting insight into what it takes to become an astronaut and her experience during the filming of the programme. She also discussed her path to her current career and other roles within space science that can be accessed through studying science.

A point that Dr Imber stressed throughout the morning was that although it is important that students achieve the best that they can in their studies, they must not ignore the value of taking part in activities outside of this. Extra curricular activities enhance a student's wellbeing and future prospects. Her other message to students was to make the most of all opportunities and to try something new as even if they fail, they can still learn a lot from these new experiences. The morning finished with a small thank you lunch in the Careers Library to which a select number of students were invited to join Dr Imber, Ms Hindocha, Mrs Conneally and Mr Stopp. The morning was inspirational for staff and students alike and we are delighted that Dr Imber was able to come to Rushey Mead Academy. If you want to find out more about Dr Suzanne Imber please follow this link: - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leicestershire-41460122>



SACRE consultation

As you may be aware, schools in England and Wales are required to provide a broadly Christian act of collective worship unless they are granted special permission from the local Standing Advisory Committee on Religious Education. Rushey Mead has been granted this permission for many years because of the religious diversity within our school population. It is now time to renew this arrangement so that we can continue our present arrangements for religious observance and collective worship for a further five years. In our last inspection by Ofsted in November 2007, the school was judged to be providing very well in this area:

"Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is particularly strong and has had a good impact on students."

We aim to continue this well thought through approach. However, we are always keen to hear parents' views so if you wish to comment on our intention to apply for a continuation of our current arrangements, please do so by emailing us on info@rushey-rmet.org.uk Please put "SACRE" in the subject box. The deadline for emails is 8th December 2017.

University Presentation

Rushey Mead hosted a presentation by University College London and Cambridge University on Wednesday 22nd November in the theatre. A total of 448 students attended from 19 city and county schools, 49 of which were Rushey Mead Year 10 students who were keen to find out more about going to university. The 2-hour presentation was interesting and informative and fired the imaginations of those present.

Apprenticeship Lunchtime Drop in Session

Rob Turnell and Mahendra Patel from the Leicester Apprenticeship Hub came in on Wednesday 22nd November to do a lunchtime drop in session in the Careers Library for students from 12.10pm – 1.55pm. This enabled interested students from all years to come and ask questions and get more information on apprenticeships. The range, level and type of apprenticeships available to students is now very different to that available a few years ago. The list includes business admin, digital artwork, hospitality, hair and beauty, engineering, ICT, oral health in a dentist practice, pharmacy, retail, and law to name but a few.

Explanation of apprenticeship levels as follows:-

Intermediate (Level 2) – generally considered to be equivalent to five GCSE passes. Applicants need to be over 16 years old and will often be asked to have English and Maths levels 4-9 (A*-C) and to be able to show that they have the ability to complete the programme.

Advanced (Level 3) – generally considered to be equivalent to two A level passes. Students need to be over 16 years old and the general requirement is for 5 x GCSEs Grades 4-9 (A* - C) or equivalent BTEC

Higher (Level 4 and above) Level 4 – equivalent to an HNC, a foundation degree, or the first year of an undergraduate degree. Students need to be 18 or over with a minimum of 2 A levels (specific subjects and grades may apply to some higher apprenticeships – please check).

Levels 5 and above – equivalent to a full degree. Entry requirements can include at least five GCSEs grades A* – C (9 – 4 on the new grading system), and Level 3 qualifications, including A levels, NVQ/SVQ Level 3, or a BTEC National. Some will expect or require applicants to have subjects related to the particular apprenticeship.

Degree (Levels 5 to 7) – these are new and enable apprentices to achieve a full bachelor's or master's degree as part of their apprenticeship.

Entry requirements can include at least five GCSEs grades A – C (9 – 4 on the new grading system), and Level 3 qualifications, including A levels, NVQ/SVQ Level 3, or a BTEC National. Some will expect or require applicants to have subjects related to the particular apprenticeship.

Any student considering an apprenticeship after Rushey Mead MUST still apply for a college place on UCAS. The apprenticeship vacancies for starting in the latter part of 2018 do not start being advertised until spring 2018 and there is no guarantee of a place on an apprenticeship. Students can apply at that time but need a college place as a back-up in case they are not successful. Please check out the Leicester Apprenticeship Hub website for further information, see link below:-

www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council/our-jobs-and-careers/opportunities-for-young-people/apprenticeships/leicester-apprenticeship-hub/

Mental health conference

At the beginning, a woman did a speech on the topic of mental health and about how she thinks that it should be introduced in school. She explained why it shouldn't be brushed aside because there are many people who suffer from a mental health problem, yet people don't realise because they hide it. That is why it is very important that there is someone to talk to.

Luckily this isn't a problem here at Rushey Mead because there always someone to approach to voice out our concerns. Afterwards we did some quizzes. Then they asked us to write the words that come to our mind when we hear the word 'mental health'. Everyone wrote words like depression, anxiety, anorexia, trauma and many others. When we had finished writing all those words down, we realised that majority of them were negative. This is what we would like to change. This made us understand that we need to change our views of mental health as we all have mental health and most of us have good mental health. It made us realise that there are positive words we can use to refer to mental health. Following that we heard some people telling us how they coped with their mental health issues. They said that they spoke to people and that felt much better than bottling things up. Then we listened to a poem by Hussain Manwar. Finally, we had lunch.

After the break we did a few more quizzes. Then we discussed what we would include in a mental health kit. People said that they would have a person to talk to, healthy food, water, tissues and a few other things. Following that we got to do something practical, we got to design a bully proof school. We said that it would help to have teachers who have understanding and awareness of mental health issues, so they can better handle such issues with respect and compassion. Awareness of mental health issues can help both teachers and pupils to enjoy positive mental health and encourage everyone to seek help and the support they need.

Finally, we had to write a pledge on how we can use the information we learnt in our schools. I wrote that some students and I could do an activity on raising awareness on mental health to break down the stigma about mental health. Overall, I feel this mental health trip was insightful and it would be lovely to do something like this again. I learnt many things about mental health and hopefully in the future I could use this knowledge for my own benefit and to educate and support others. By Mahima 8RUS



“Take it further” opportunities

The following activities are being offered as part of the ‘Take if Further’ provision:

Year 10 Gifted and Talented Easter Schools: DeMontfort University (#DMUTalented)

The Year 10 Gifted and Talented Easter schools will be running at De Montfort University for this academic year. The #DMUTalented Easter schools will run from the Tuesday 3rd April – Friday 6th April 2017. Year 10 students can apply to one of the following subject areas: Dance, Drama, Art and Design, Healthcare Science and Law. All activities are free of charge to students and all materials will be provided throughout the week. Students will have to provide their own lunch but on the final day (6th April), the university will hold a celebration event for students, staff, friends, families and school staff to celebrate the hard work of the students who have attended.

Students who are still interested in applying for this fantastic opportunity should email Ms N Kholia (nkholia@rushey-rmet.org.uk) to get an application form. The internal deadline to submit application forms is Friday 19th January 2018. The completed application should be printed off and signed by a parent/carer, and returned to Ms Kholia before the internal deadline.

Year 11 Triple Science students: Physics Masterclass and ‘Journey to a comet’

Students in Year 11 studying triple science have an opportunity to complete a Physics Masterclass programme next term, which will be delivered by an Ogden Teacher Fellow and the National Space centre. Students will be required to attend a set of three inspirational masterclasses (afterschool sessions) where they will be engaged in higher level physics and mathematical concepts to further stretch and challenge their thinking. The sessions will be a mixture of theory and practical science to develop understanding of key astrophysics concepts. The programme will finish with a public lecture on the ‘Journey to a comet’ and an award ceremony for the participating students.

The dates for the programme are as follows:

Masterclass session 1:	Tuesday 27.02.18
Masterclass session 2:	Tuesday 13.03.18
Masterclass session 3:	Tuesday 10.04.18

Year 11 triple science students interested in participating in this programme, should email or see Ms N Kholia to sign up. There are only 30 places available on this programme.

Top A2L and most Improved students

Congratulations to the following Year 10 and Year 11 students who have the best overall Attitude to Learning scores for the Autumn term.



BLINNIKOVA Anastasija	10CHM	ISSUAR Khushi	10BOR	SIAN Sophiya	11MER	MANOJ DAIALAL Bijal	11CHR
DHARMENDRA Khushi	10HAM	MAYUR Aastha	10CHR	DATTANI Jaimini	11RUR	ISWAR Khushi	11MER
NAGRA Saroop	10HAR	SOLGAMA Mira	10HAR	GHELANI Niraj	11MER	PATEL Shyam	11MER
PATEL Jayden	10CHM	AJMAYEEN Nasma	10RUR	BANGARH Ritika	11CHR	ED-DENGUIR Roqaya	11CHR
ASVINKUMAR Dhruvil	10HAR	RAJPARA Dhruvil	10RUR	JIVAN Punit	11MER	SINGH Gursimran	11HAR

Can you take the art challenge?

Learning art in school helps students to improve visual analysis skills, learn from mistakes, be creative and make better critical judgments. Learning about art by first-hand experience of seeing real art is not only an enriching experience but also helps us to question and understand the world around us.

Key stage 3 students are completing a project based around DYSTOPIA. Their challenge is to visit New-walk Museum – find the German Expressionism Gallery – find the print that they have been studying which is Ernst Heckel ‘Man on a plain’ and take a ‘selfie’.

Here are some of the results so far. E-mail your picture to zconneally@rushey-rmet.org.uk

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/museums-and-galleries/museums-and-historic-venues/new-walk-museum-and-art-gallery/>



Forthcoming events

Wednesday 6th December - Music scholars orchestra recital, 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Wednesday 13th December - Year 11 parents evening, 4.30pm - 7.30pm