

Module 5

Principal's Newsletter

John Dixon, Principal



The end of Module 5 is almost upon us; a relatively short module, but action packed, nonetheless. The Halley's Comment will return in Module 6 but for now I would like to update you with some of this term's activities.

I was privileged to be asked to speak at the Tallow Chandlers Education Awards in London, on the 9th May, about the challenges of education in the 21st century and how we are breaking down barriers at The Halley Academy. Myself, Ms Williamson, a selection of students from our Social Action Group and a Halley's Hero were invited to this prestigious event to celebrate and recognise the students' significant contribution to some of the outstanding student leadership opportunities at The Halley Academy. This was also a chance for us to express how grateful we are for the ongoing support of the Tallow Chandlers' Company. They have a long association with our academy, and alongside support from the Leigh Academies Trust, have had an incredible impact on the quality of education we are able to provide our students. Their support allows us to buy into enrichment activities, revision resources and support intervention programmes that deepen our students' education experience.



Exam season is well underway now, and I have been very impressed by our Year 11 cohort as they embark on one of the most important periods of their lives. Their conduct in exams so far has been a testament to their hard work and the dedication of our staff who have been going above and beyond to secure the best possible outcomes for our students. I am sure you would like to wish each and every one of our Year 11 and Year 13 students taking exams, the best of luck and know that you will get the results that you deserve.

REMEMBER - revise, revise, revise!

It is not just classroom based activities that have been producing results this Module. As you will see from the Turing School update overleaf, we have real cause to celebrate in the recent Cambridge Athletics Cup. We could have a future Olympian among us.

Do keep an eye on our news blog on The Halley Academy website (www.thehalleyacademy.org.uk) where you will find the latest news and events that have been taking place at the Academy.

We recently hosted another successful 'live' visit for Year 6 students and their families joining The Halley family in September 2019.



Hawking Small School Update

The Sixth Form STEM Professional Mentor Programme is moving forward in earnest, students are now experiencing employment taster days with their mentors. One stand out student experience is a forthcoming visit to Norman Foster and Partners. Norman Foster is a world renowned architect and has designed buildings such as City Hall and The Gherkin.

The Hawking Students have all been working hard in preparation for their examinations which are now well underway.

They took the opportunity to ask any questions and were able to meet key members of the Leadership Team. One parent said, "My son is so excited about starting here in Year 7. My other child joined The Halley Academy last year and is extremely happy here. Thank you to the staff for making my children very happy." I am delighted with this feedback which helps to demonstrate the continued improvements that are being made here. This is backed up by our current data on Ofsted Parent View. 85% of parents would recommend this school to another parent, which is wonderful news as we continue on our rapid improvement journey. Of course we would like to see this percentage increase, but we are moving in the right direction. 90% of parents said their child is happy at school and 88% said their child is taught well at this school. We look forward to improving these scores further as we move ahead together.

As I write this, the sun is shining and the good mood continues as we lead into the summer months. As we have now been The Halley Academy for over a year, we would like to invite you to a Parents' Forum on Thursday 6th June at 4pm in the Library at The Halley Academy. This will be an opportunity for Parents and Carers to give feedback to the Leadership Team in a relaxed, informal setting. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.



The trial sessions will be run by APD (Advanced Player Development) and their UEFA qualified coaches



THE HALLEY ACADEMY

FOOTBALL ACADEMY TRIALS

ALL YEAR 11 STUDENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Saturday 22nd June 2019, 11am – 1pm

Massive congratulations to The Football Academy who have now played all games for the FA Schools Academy League finishing second. This means the team are promoted to FA Academies League Premiership. We are very confident that the Football Academy will continue to strengthen and grow.



Turing Small School Update

Too many of our young people come into our academy thinking that they are not good enough to achieve, but are capable of incredible things. Our challenge as the Turing team is to ensure that every child realises their potential, something that we are incredibly proud to do.

Our Turing students continue to impress us with their commitment to their learning and dedication to extra curricular activities. Mubarrak in Year 8 competed in 100m and 200m at the Cambridge Schools Cup

against other Greenwich schools. He clocked 12.3 and 25.3 seconds respectively, with his 100m time recorded as the fastest time this year in the whole of the UK for his age group. A special mention must also go to; Charlie, Nixon, Gezz, Nikan and Clinton who represented the academy brilliantly.

As well as sporting achievements, two of our students were awarded the Jack Petchey award. Ashante and Faridah were a credit to the Turing school, with their prize money donated to the Year 11 Prom and Social Action Group. This selflessness highlights the incredible work the two girls are currently doing in their Year 11 studies. As well as winning awards, our students have also shown a consistency in their approach to their studies.

This modules reward card winners highlight this, with the list below highlighting the fantastic array of students within our school:

- Nicholas, Year 7
- - 10th reward card
- Louisa, Year 7
- Micki-Lou, Year 7
- Estelle, Year 7
- Darren, Year 7
- Charlie, Year 8
- James, Year 8
- Sultan, Year 10

Finally, I would like to give a special mention to Ms Halliday for her excellent work as the Interim Director of Progress. She will resume her role as Deputy Director and will continue to excel working with our students. We would also like to take this time to welcome Ms Jess to the Turing team as Director of Progress. Ms Jess is also an excellent Science practitioner, something which we know will add to the great work currently being undertaken in that curriculum area.



Easley Small School Update

Our Easley students have had a busy term whether it be the Year 11s preparing for their exams or the other year groups working hard to make good progress. We have many students involved in after school clubs and sporting activities but also out of school activities such as sports teams and cadets too. Two of our Easley students - Sophie in Year 10 and Tristan in Year 7 are committed members of the Social Action Group who

have been working with Citizens UK since last September. Recently, on Tuesday 20th April, they attended the Mayoral Assembly at Southwark Cathedral to meet with key councillors from across the South East London Boroughs to raise awareness of issues such as misogyny, knife crime and homelessness.

We are very proud of Sophie and Tristan especially as in Module 4 Sophie was nominated and won a Jack Petchey Award for her commitment to the Social Action Group. Sophie is also passionate about other political issues such as climate change and will continue to campaign as a voice to be heard. We also wish her every success in regards to her pursuit in boxing.

The Prom Committee have been working hard this module, fundraising for their Year 11 Prom. The second "Halley's Got Talent" show took place on Friday 3rd May in the Drama Hall. It was an entertaining event displaying the wide array of talent that our Halley students have to offer. The audience were supportive and enjoyed the show from beginning to end. Compèred/hosted by Ms Taylor and judged by Ms Beswick, Ms Roscoe and Samuel (Post 16) - the winners were:

- 1st - Tenzin, Year 7
- 2nd - Kelsey, Year 11
- 3rd - TJ, Year 11



Franklin Small School Update

Amazingly, we have reached the end of another module! Even though this has been a relatively short module, the students in Franklin Small School continue to impress all of the Franklin team.

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Godfrey (as our second DDoP) to the Franklin team. She is someone that many of our students and families will have already had the pleasure of working with, and has already started to make an impact with students and our home-school partnerships.

Celebrating Success

During this module, three of our students have been nominated as 'student of the week' with one student winning twice.

Cartier, Year 10 - English:
'Excellent focus and contributions to discussions and debates'

Poppy, Year 11 - Technology:
'Assessment presented to the external examiner who was impressed with the extremely high standard of work Poppy has produced.'

Rebecca, Year 8 - Franklin Small School:
'Was an excellent ambassador for the academy as a volunteer at Parents' Evening.'

Poppy, Year 11 - English:
'Poppy is an absolute superstar across the year. She is a pleasure to teach and has been a wonderful pupil during this revision period, producing essay after essay in preparation for her English exams.'

In addition, Franklin Small School students have demonstrated their sports' skills over the last module:

A number of The Halley Academy students have recently competed in the Cambridge Cup athletics competition which took place at Cambridge Harriers. I'd like to thank the Franklin students that took part, and remind Franklin Small School that The Halley Academy Sports Day will take place early next Module. This will be the first time that we have the new small school structure for our academy sports day, and it will be Franklin's chance to be the first small school to be at the top of the winners list. There is immense talent and pride within Franklin Small School so it is a great opportunity to represent Franklin within the Academy. Students can apply to be selected to represent The Halley Academy in the Greenwich Schools Athletics competition, and the highly competitive Leigh Academies Trust Sports Day.