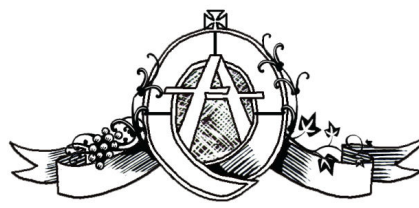




The Little Mermaid
Students shine and captivate audiences with an underwater adventure like no other!

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Duke of Edinburgh
Students venture out on a practise Silver expedition.

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ASA TODAY

Issue 56, Term 5, 2024

The All Saints' Academy Newspaper

www.asachelt.org

Community Pull Together to Complete Epic Run-Bike-Row Challenge

On 22nd April, All Saints' Academy concluded our Run-Bike-Row fundraiser at Energie Fitness, marking a significant milestone in our journey towards supporting the Tanzania mission.

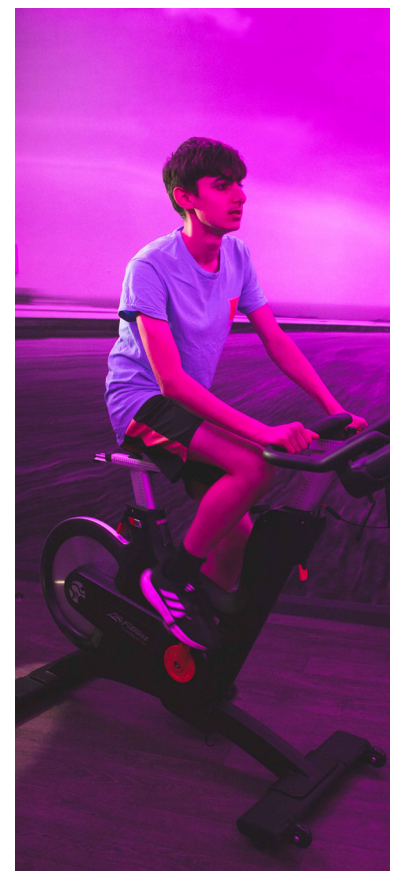
Students and staff from All Saints' Academy joined forces to raise funds for our upcoming trip to Tanzania. The challenge was straightforward yet demanding: cover 6,980km, mirroring the distance from Cheltenham to Kasulu in Tanzania.

We extend our thanks to Energie Fitness for their generous support and hospitality throughout this challenge. Their open invitation to their gym community resulted in an impressive display of solidarity, with gym users contributing their cardio efforts towards our collective goal. Together, we've raised an impressive £1,203.

On April 22nd, our team of 11 students completed the final 115km, achieving our ambitious target in a final united spin session!

This mission holds deep significance as it marks our return to Tanzania. Since our initial visit in 2014, we've forged a meaningful partnership with Archbishop Kahurananga School, supporting the Gloucester Diocese's work in the region. We're excited to rekindle this partnership and provide our students with a transformative cultural and spiritual experience.

On July 9th 2024, our team of students and staff will embark



on this journey. Through rigorous selection, these students have demonstrated exceptional dedication to this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Our 2024 team will visit the Archbishop Kahurananga School and immerse themselves in school life, assuming the roles of

both students and educators across various subjects, from Maths and Art to Computer Science and Drama.

Additionally, the team will visit other local primary and secondary schools, as well as participate in local community projects, including visits to orphanages. Using the opportunity

provided by the Diocesan Partnership, the team will also engage in local church services and community projects.

While we've made significant progress, we still need your support to reach our £35,000 target. Currently, we've raised £33,200, thanks to the sponsorship from

Gloucester Diocese and the support of our community. Your continued support is crucial as we strive to make a lasting impact in Tanzania.

If you would like to donate to our mission trip please see our Just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/asa-tanzania-2024>



We have currently raised £33,200 towards our Tanzania Mission Trip!



By Mrs Edgar
PR & Communications
Manager
Editor of ASA TODAY

The past two terms at All Saints' Academy have been filled with a whirlwind of activities and events that have showcased the incredible talent and dedication of our students. One of the highlights was the whole Academy production of *The Little Mermaid*, where our students dazzled audiences with their outstanding performances both on stage and behind the scenes. From beautiful musical numbers to fantastic acting, the production was a testament to the creativity and teamwork that define the spirit of our Academy.

In addition to the Academy production, our calendar has been filled with enriching experiences such as the Careers Fair, where students had the opportunity to explore various career pathways and engage with professionals from diverse industries. Reward trips provided well-deserved breaks for our hardworking students, while the Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition tested their resilience and outdoor skills. Our commitment to global citizenship was evident through fundraising efforts for our upcoming trip to Tanzania, demonstrating our dedication to making a positive impact beyond our local community. I would like to say a big thank you to Energie Fitness for supporting us with our latest Tanzania 'Run-Bike-Row' Challenge.

Sports successes also shone brightly this term, winning some big games, and showing great sportsmanship both on and off the field. Meanwhile, Sixth Form and Science trips offered invaluable opportunities to learn outside the classroom.

If any students are interested in reporting on events happening in the Academy, they can sign up to be newspaper reporters by emailing Mrs Edgar at kedgar@asachelt.org and become a part of ASA TODAY, where every voice matters.



By Mrs Priest
Marketing Assistant
Editor of ASA TODAY

Digital Signage

Calling all staff and students! Have you noticed the wonderful digital signage around the Academy? The IT team recently upgraded our software so we can share a huge range of content on the screens. I am eager to hear your thoughts!

Whether you crave insightful tips from teachers, handy resource links, or you'd like to have a go at creating content with me, your feedback matters. If you'd like to help shape our digital landscape, share your suggestions by emailing spriest@asachelt.org so that we can create useful content with you and for you.



By Mr Wilkinson
Interim Principal

It has been a privilege to lead All Saints' Academy as Interim Principal since September. Wow! This year has flown by and my first experience as an Academy Principal has been even more demanding and rewarding than I had expected. I have enjoyed the full support of our dedicated staff team, who really are second to none in their commitment to providing the most loving education to our students and families.

This year I have worked to further enhance the pastoral structure by investing in more staff and building additional teaching spaces to support more students with their behavioural and learning needs.

We have continued to focus our teacher development on adaptive teaching and have given over more INSET and after-school training time for teachers to work on improving their skills to help students learn even more effectively across the full ability range.

I have challenged our

A Year of Growth and Achievement



Above: Our Year 11 student leadership team with Mr Wilkinson

staff team to create even more opportunities to recognise and reward effort. Those students who have met our high standards this year have received reward trips and more than 150,000 Life points this year – a stunning increase from previous years.

Finally, I am exceptionally

proud that we have increased our enrichment offer to all students with more than 50 different clubs and societies to join and so far, almost 600 have joined in to explore their interests, learn new skills and make friends.

It was an honour to be appointed to lead our wonderful

community and I am as excited as everyone else to see how the Academy will grow even further under the leadership of Mr Williams who joins us in June when I return to my role as Associate Principal. Thank you for your support and best wishes.

Junior Mathematical Challenge



By Mrs Nicholls
Teacher of Maths

Eighty of our Year 7 and 8 students took part in UK Maths Trust's Junior Mathematical Challenge on 25th April. The challenge 'encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought and fluency to make students think.'



Address:
Blaisdon Way
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 0WH

Phone: 01242 711200
Absences: 01242 711203
Email: admin@asachelt.org

www.asachelt.org



@asachelt

DataFace Project



By Mr Samrai
Head of Computer Science

At ASA, we believe in tackling real-world issues head-on, and our Year 8 students are doing just that with their latest project. The students are taking on the challenge of visualizing the cost of living crisis.

The project involves constructing two meals that represent the amount of food one could purchase for the same price in different years, aiming to show the impact of economic changes over time. It's a hands-on approach to understanding complex economic concepts, and the students are diving



in with enthusiasm and determination. We're proud of the initiative and creativity shown by our Year 8 team. They're not just crunching numbers; they're using their skills to create tangible representations of data, honing their critical thinking and problem-solving abilities along the way.

As the project progresses, we're excited to see our students' final piece in June. The opportunity for the winning team to present at the Cheltenham Festival adds an extra layer of motivation, providing them with a chance to showcase their hard work on a larger stage.

The dedication of our Year 8 students is evident in their commitment to this project. Their efforts are a testament to the spirit of excellence that defines the Academy, and we're looking forward to seeing their continued growth and success. Stay tuned for updates as our students make their mark on the world of data visualisation.



Year 8 Students Explore Science Beyond Classroom Walls



By Mr Smith
Head of Science

Year 8 students embarked on an educational journey to Oxford, exploring two prestigious museums: the Pitt Rivers Museum and the Oxford University Museum of Natural History.



At the Pitt Rivers Museum, students delved into the history of human civilization, examining artefacts and artworks from various cultures around the world. They then ventured to the Oxford University Museum of Natural History, where they encountered dinosaur fossils and learned about the processes of evolution and extinction.

The trip provided an opportunity for students to connect

their classroom learning to real-world examples, with topics such as photosynthesis and plant life finding relevance in the exhibits they explored.

Now they've returned to the Academy, students carry with them a broader understanding of science and its applications in the world around them. The trip undoubtedly sparked curiosity and inspired further exploration of the wonders of the natural world.

Careers Festival



Above: Students trying on alumnus Jake's crew gifts from films he has worked on

On 27th February, we hosted an exciting Careers Festival at the Academy which provided students and parents/carers with valuable insights into a range of career options.

The event was met with enthusiasm as students actively explored various pathways and engaged in meaningful discussions with our guests. We would like to thank all individuals for their contributions in making this event a success. We would like to say a very special thank you to all of our fantastic partners, whose involvement has been instrumental in broadening our students' perspectives and equipping them with valuable career insights.



A special thank you to:

Deloitte
Wiggins Law Firm
Holiday Inn Express
Hydro Extrusions
CF Roberts Mechanical & Electrical
Little Trees Day Nurseries
Move More
Proud to Care
Gloucestershire College
Coventry University
University of Gloucestershire

RAF
Army
Hartpury University
Hartpury College
Bath Spa University
Get Trained, Grows
Bridge Training Ltd
The Employability Hub
Cheltenham Town Football Club
Nuffield Hospital
Alumnus Jake Parker

Easter Service



By Mrs Spence
Roman Catholic
Lay Chaplain

On Friday 22nd March, the All Saints' Academy community gathered together for the End of Term Services and Eucharist. Led by Mr Wilkinson, the Academy's Interim Principal, the event commenced with a warm welcome extended to all attendees, followed by introductions of honoured guests and our Academy Prayer. The central theme of the service revolved around the culmination of the Liturgical Season of Lent, a time

of reflection, repentance, and spiritual preparation leading up to Easter. This theme permeated the scripture passages, which were eloquently read by student Spirituality Leaders Matilda, Amy, Lloyd, Ebony and Ella, drawing focus to pivotal moments in the Christian narrative.

Guiding the congregation through the celebration of The Eucharist was Rev. Andrew Blyth, Lead Pastor of Trinity Cheltenham. Echoing the poignant account of the Last Supper, students and staff were invited to partake in the symbolic sharing of bread and wine or to receive a blessing—a poignant reminder of the sacrificial love and grace central to the

Christian faith.

Mr. David Baker of St. Paul's delivered a thought-provoking homily, delving into the profound significance of the Easter message—a message of hope, renewal, and redemption resonating through the ages.

Throughout the service, attendees were moved by a poignant film clip featuring the worship song

'What I See' by Elevation Workshop, enriching the spiritual atmosphere and fostering a sense of unity and reverence among all present.

As the service drew to a close, heartfelt prayers were offered by the Academy Chaplains, Mr Round and Mrs Spence, accompanied by a final blessing bestowed by Rev. Andrew Blyth.

The End of Term Services and Eucharist not only marked the conclusion of a chapter in the academic calendar but also served as a poignant reminder of the enduring significance of faith, community, and the timeless message of Easter—a message of hope, transformation, and boundless love embraced by the All Saints' Academy community.

Bags of love for The Pantry at Springbank



By Mrs Spence
Roman Catholic
Lay Chaplain

In the spirit of compassion and generosity characteristic of the Lenten season, the All Saints' Academy community embarked on a heartfelt initiative to support those in need through food donations for The Pantry at Springbank.

Following the February half-term break, the Academy launched an appeal for non-perishable food items, inviting students and staff to participate in giving back to the community. Each Tutor Group was provided with a distinctive purple paper bag, symbolising the liturgical colour associated with Lent—a reminder of the season's call to reflection, sacrifice, and service to others.

Throughout the duration of Lent, students and staff embraced the initiative, generously contributing to the collection effort. In a testament to their compassion and dedication, some Tutor Groups went above and beyond, requesting additional bags to further

support the cause.

The Community Food Pantry at Springbank offers users the opportunity to top-up their weekly shop for a small donation, meaning they leave with more food to feed their families so that no one goes hungry.

On Wednesday 20th March, the culmination of this collective effort was witnessed as Tutor Groups delivered their purple bags brimming with donations to Loaves and Fishes during Meet, Greet and Pray (MGP). The sight of numerous bags overflowing with essential provisions served as a reminder of the Academy community's commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of others and actioning our Academy's value of service.

The contributions were warmly welcomed by The Pantry, serving as a tangible expression of solidarity and support for individuals and families facing hardship within the local community.

We look forward to supporting our community in the coming months.



Year 12 Reward Trip



By Mrs Edgar
PR & Communications
Manager

Year 12 students who demonstrated outstanding attendance and commitment, were recently treated to a well-deserved reward trip to Roxy Lanes in Cheltenham.

The Roxy Lanes trip was packed with fun activities, bringing our Year 12 students together for a day of enjoyment and bonding. From bowling to pool and karaoke, there was something for everyone. Some tried ice curling and bankshot shuffleboard for the first time, adding to the excitement.

Beyond the games, the trip provided a chance for students to connect outside the classroom, strengthening friendships and school spirit. It's a small token of appreciation for their dedication, and we hope it inspires them to keep up the good work. Congratulations to all who attended!



ALUMNI NEWS

Savannah Evans, Master of Laws and Entrepreneur Extraordinaire

Savannah Evans, a former student of All Saints' Academy, has embarked on an inspiring journey since finishing Sixth Form in 2017. With a string of impressive achievements under her belt, she exemplifies the possibilities that lie ahead for those willing to work hard and seize opportunities.

After leaving Sixth Form, Savannah wasted no time in pursuing her passion for law. She completed her undergraduate Law degree at the University of the West of England, followed by a Masters in Law from the University of Law. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID pandemic, she adapted and excelled in her studies, demonstrating resilience and determination.

Savannah's academic journey laid the foundation for her diverse career path. She explored



roles in the mortgage industry before finding her niche as a Project Manager in the construction sector.

In addition to her role in construction, Savannah manages two thriving property businesses. Despite the inherent risks, she embraces the challenges and finds the industry rewarding. Her success in entrepreneurship underscores her entrepreneurial spirit and willingness to take calculated risks.

Reflecting on her time at All Saints' Academy, Savannah acknowledges the role her education played in shaping her career trajectory. The resilience and

discipline instilled in her during Sixth Form laid the groundwork for her achievements. Subjects like Law and Business Studies provided valuable insights that she applies daily in her professional endeavours.

Savannah's journey serves as a beacon of inspiration for current and future students of All Saints' Academy. Her story highlights the importance of perseverance, adaptability, and seizing opportunities. As she continues to excel in her career, Savannah remains a testament to the limitless potential of those who dare to dream and work tirelessly to turn their dreams into reality.

GE Aerospace Trip



By Mr Smith
Head of Science



Our A Level Physics students in Year 12 and 13 visited GE Aerospace to find out more about careers and higher education opportunities within the aerospace sector.

Students participated in team building and coding activities as well as trying their hand at piloting in a flight simulator. Students found the CV

writing workshop particularly useful, learning what makes a great CV and what traps to avoid when writing them.

The event was led by graduates and degree-apprenticeships from GE, so our students could find out first-hand about some of the different routes available to them once their Sixth Form education is over.

Duke of Edinburgh Award

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) is a transformative journey for young people aged 14-24. Offering a blend of adventure, personal development, and community engagement, the DofE empowers students to discover their potential while equipping them with vital life skills. Through a structured framework comprising volunteering, physical activities, skill development, and expeditions, students recently embarked on a challenging Silver practice expedition in preparation for the final adventure next term. Over two days, these determined individuals ventured through the rugged terrain of the Brecon Beacons, demonstrating their resilience and teamwork every step of the way.

Regardless of background or ability, every young person is welcomed to embark on their DofE journey. It's not a competition but rather a personal challenge aimed at pushing boundaries and fostering resilience, teamwork, and communication. Supported by the Academy, students set objectives, chose activities, and worked towards their goals under the guidance of experienced leaders.

Setting out with enthusiasm, our Year 9, 10, and 11 students faced the daunting ascent of Pen Y Fan, the highest peak in the Brecon Beacons. With a climb of nearly 500 meters from

their starting point, this feat required determination and perseverance. Yet, with each stride, our students showcased their commitment to overcoming challenges and reaching new heights, both figuratively and literally.

As night fell, our teams pitched their tents and prepared their own meals, embracing the essence of self-reliance and outdoor survival. Cooking under the open sky, surrounded by the tranquillity of nature, provided a memorable experience for all involved.

Beyond the physical exertion, each team pursued a unique aim during their time outdoors. From observing wildlife and flora to capturing the beauty of their surroundings through photography, our students showcased their diverse interests and passions. This personalised approach not only enriched their expedition experience but also fostered a deeper connection with the natural world.

The benefits of completing a DofE award are manifold. From enhancing CVs and university applications to boosting confidence and mental well-being, participants emerge with a wealth of experiences and skills that set them apart in an increasingly competitive world. As we celebrate the accomplishments of our Silver practice expedition, we commend our students for their resilience, determination,



and spirit of adventure. Their journey exemplifies the core values of the DofE program and serves as a testament to the transformative power of outdoor exploration and personal development. We eagerly anticipate the next chapter in their DofE adventure and the continued growth and success of our students.

CCF Gets Talking



By Mr Dowden
CCF School Staff
Instructor

As the new School Staff Instructor (SSI), I'm excited to share that students who are part of the Academy's Combined Cadet Force (CCF) have been taking to the airwaves and learning essential military radio skills.

My teams of cadets were tasked with using the radios to transmit important information to other teams spread around the school grounds in order to practice using radios as well as important map-reading skills.

For those of you unfamiliar with the CCF cadets, it is an afterschool activity/club for students from Year 8 to Year 13 who are looking for an activity that will be rewarding, challenging and varied. I welcome everyone to come and join the CCF! The CCF is affiliated with the military and at All Saints' Academy, there is currently an RAF

section. This means cadets will wear RAF uniforms and have the opportunity to experience military activities such as flying in aircraft, taking the controls of both planes and gliders and shooting rifles on military ranges.

As well as traditional military activities, cadets can also get involved in adventure training, a military term for mountain biking, kayaking, skiing, hill walking and many more. If you are interested in joining or just finding out more, come and speak to me, Mr Dowden, or Miss Baynham-Williams.

I am the new SSI and can be easily identified as I am in school wearing an RAF uniform. I came to All Saints' Academy after completing 21 years in the RAF as an Air Operations Officer. During my career, I have worked with all types of aircraft: fast jets, helicopters, and transport aircraft, in many different countries from the Falkland Islands to the Middle East. I have worked with the Army and Royal Navy so can answer any questions you may have about the British Military.

THE LITTLE MERMAID

Issue 56, Term 5, 2024

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Life is the Bubbles



By Miss Baynham-Williams
Director of
Performing Arts

To kick start our spring term this year, over 160 students joined together both on stage and backstage to invite our audiences to join them 'under the sea'. This year's show was a very special one for us as it was our leading lady Shannon's last ever Academy production and we thank our Ariel for saving her best performance for last.

This year, we saw some new faces in the lead cast such as our dashing Prince Eric who was none other than Cheltenham Town Football Club's Keane. This was Keane's first time braving the spotlight and we are thrilled we have found such exceptional talent in him and can't wait for next year. We also had some Academy favourite faces step into lead roles such as super suave Charlie as our Jamaican Sea Crab Sebastian and our wonderfully talented seagull Lucas as Scuttle. Amelia and Luana stepped up and stole the show as fierce and fiery sea witch Ursula with Tom and Kajetan slithering into their last Academy production roles as Ursula's evil eels, Flotsam and Jetsam. Taidhg returned to the stage dominating audiences as the tenacious King Triton and Ollie took on the challenge for his first lead role as loyal wingman Grimsby too.

Everywhere you looked on stage there was jam-packed talent. Ariel's mischievous but gorgeous mer-sisters sprinkled their magic and siren song across West Cheltenham thanks to Sara, Ellie, Grace, Ocean, Madison and Ruby.

Our youngest stars this year were our exceptionally brave and talented little Flounders who decided to dive right into our academy vision of having life in all its fullness, by auditioning for a lead role the second they joined in Year 7. Well done to Ollie F and Ethan for captivating the audiences and stealing their hearts night after night!

This year's production was a special one to remember. It pulled on the audience's heartstrings as it overwhelmed them with a deep sense of Disney nostalgia and happiness of fond childhood memories. Our new Principal, Mr Williams, joined us with his family for a night of celebration, pride and joy as he got to see a small glimpse of what our wonderfully inclusive, and beautifully ambitious Academy life is like.

We want to thank our friends from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and their Scenic Design and Construction students for transforming All Saints' into an underwater kingdom and we can't wait to work with them again next year.



We would also like to thank all of our wonderful academy students involved and congratulate them on such a marvellous show this year. Thank you to our

brilliant surrounding community for your endless support with the Performing Arts. We can't wait to open our stage curtains again for you and look forward to next year!

Year 10 Football District Cup



a glimmer of hope for a potential comeback.

Ultimately, time was not on their side, and the final whistle blew with the score reading 3-1 in favour of Bournside. Despite the loss, the ASA team walked off the pitch with their heads held high, proud of their performance and the journey they had undertaken throughout the competition. The team played some excellent football in the second half and showed great determination.

Ashley emerged as a standout player, earning the title of Man of the Match for his brilliant contribution on the field. Additionally, Jack was recognised as Player of the Season, a testament to his leadership and skill throughout.

As the season draws to a close, the ASA football team reflects on their achievements with pride, knowing that they have left their mark on the District Cup stage. Though the final result may not have been in their favour, the resilience and sportsmanship displayed by the students serve as a reminder of the true essence of competitive sports—perseverance, teamwork, and unwavering spirit. Congratulations to everyone on the team, the Academy is so proud of you!



By Mr Rollason
PE Teacher

In a thrilling culmination to the District Cup journey, All Saints' Academy's football team faced off against the

reigning champions, Bournside, in a high-stakes final clash. Despite a valiant effort, the boys succumbed to a 3-1 defeat.

The journey to the final was no easy feat for the ASA squad, who demonstrated their prowess by securing victories in four out of five group-stage matches.

However, adversity struck early on the day of the final as the team suffered a setback with the absence of key player Uriah due to injury. Nevertheless, the team remained undeterred as they took to the pitch with determination and grit.

The first half saw a rapid succession of goals from the opposition, leaving ASA trailing behind at halftime with a score of 3-0. Despite the daunting deficit, the

team rallied together during the break, displaying resilience and a fighting spirit that characterised their season.

The second half witnessed a remarkable display of football prowess from the ASA students. They dominated possession and showcased their technical skills, earning praise for their tenacity and unwavering resolve. With just 10 minutes remaining on the clock, their efforts were rewarded as they found the back of the net, offering



CTFC Trip



By Miss Wyatt
PE Teacher

In an exciting venture aimed at promoting sports engagement and community involvement, members of the girls' football team and Year 10 BTEC sport students, embarked on an unforgettable outing to support their local team, Cheltenham Town, as they

faced off against Carlisle United.

The trip, made possible through the collaboration with the Cheltenham Town Community Trust, provided an unparalleled opportunity for the students to immerse themselves in the electrifying atmosphere of a professional football match. Notably, the Year 7 girls received complimentary tickets as a reward for their active participation in a coaching session conducted by CTFC coaches, showcasing the Academy's

commitment to encouraging girls' involvement in sports.

As the students gathered at the stadium, excitement filled the air, with anticipation running high for an evening of thrilling football action. The match itself, while ultimately ending in a narrow defeat for Cheltenham Town, served as a backdrop for a broader experience centred around camaraderie, teamwork, and community spirit.

Throughout the outing, the students had the opportunity to

witness first-hand the dedication and skill displayed by professional athletes, inspiring them to pursue their own sporting aspirations and goals. Moreover, the trip fostered a sense of unity and pride among the Academy community, as students cheered on their local team.



SPORT ENRICHMENT

Lunchtime

Monday
Table Tennis (Y7/9)
GCSE Trampoline
Sixth Form Cricket

Tuesday
Rounders Squad Training Y7-10
LS Mixed Sports with Move More

Friday
Football (KS5)

After School

Monday
Sixth Form Girls' Boxercise

Tuesday
Volleyball
Tennis
Boys' Boxing (KS3)

Wednesday
Rounders
Cricket
Basketball (KS4 & 5)

Thursday
Athletics
Basketball (KS3)