



LONDON ACADEMY  
OF EXCELLENCE  
TOTTENHAM

NEWSLETTER

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ISSUE 3



## Latest News

This month has been dominated by the coronavirus pandemic which has brought unique challenges for the UK, including for schools and colleges. In response, we've launched a comprehensive remote learning package, with students receiving their normal diet of lessons through remote platforms - predominantly google classroom and google meet. Enabling this has involved the collection or delivery of over 120 chromebooks to students and we're delighted by the enthusiasm with which students and staff have adapted to remote learning.

Sadly, so many of the work experience, summer school and other opportunities which our Year 12 students have been applying to will be postponed, but we were nevertheless proud that 115 students (over half of our Year 12 cohort) made applications to Sutton Trust Summer Schools - residential at leading Russell Group universities in the UK. We hope that these may still go ahead. We were equally proud of the three students (Briana from 'Exeter' tutor group, Rania from 'Pavia' tutor group and Youssef from 'UCL' tutor group) who won places on the Sutton Trust US programme, and are hoping that they will still have the opportunity to spend a week at a top US university.

This month has also seen the launch of our careers programme (initially face-to-face, now remote), the highlights of which are described in this newsletter. Our thanks to all those who have given so generously of their time for our students.

# Speakers and Events

## Speakers

Students were intrigued by Mr Cosimo Ajmone – Marsan, a Teacher of Philosophy at Highgate School and former concert pianist, as he presented on the history of thought through words, imagery and music. We also welcomed Anne Marie Neatham, Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Ocado Technology who gave students an invaluable insight into her career.



## Career Accelerator

For the past three months twenty Year 12 students have participated in the career accelerator programme which has enabled them to receive mentoring by professionals from companies such as LinkedIn, Just Eat and Google.

Students on the programme met fortnightly with their mentors at their places of work where they received advice and support which included:

- ❖ How to get into the digital industry
- ❖ CV and LinkedIn development
- ❖ The importance of networking
- ❖ Clarity in understanding their post 18 options for employment

Lauren from 'Imperial' tutor group said: "My mentor was incredibly useful in advising on the roles in politics that I am interested in". Safy from 'Pavia' tutor group also commented on his experience saying: "The programme has really helped me to improve my networking skills and employability. Moreover, it helped me in developing my interpersonal skills and made me think about my reasons for wanting to pursue a career working in the technology industry".



# Tottenham Aspirations

On Thursday 5th March, 30 students from local feeder schools and their parents attended a highly successful Tottenham Aspirations Event. This evening was designed to provide students with an overview of the university application process and offer tips on early preparation for applications to top universities. Supported by a colleague from the Widening Participation team at University College London, LAET staff and students shared information about the UCAS process, different university courses and opportunities that secondary school students can take advantage of in order to make a competitive university application. The highlight of the evening was hearing from Year 13 LAET students who had attended our feeder schools and now hold offers from top universities, including Oxford, Cambridge, and several UK Medical Schools.

## Careers Programme

The month of March has seen the careers programme in full swing. Feedback from students has been very positive and encouraging. All Year 12 students have attended tailored sessions on CV writing, cover letters and job applications.

Students have also experienced a taste of professional networking by attending a panel discussion and networking carousel for their chosen career pathway. Our guests represented a wide range of organisations including Tottenham Hotspur, Experian and the Ministry of Justice. A student commented on her experience saying: "This was a very beneficial session, we really appreciated the opportunity to have personal conversations about our areas of interest."

Nineteen students also took part in the Foundervine Entrepreneur in a day workshop. Our students worked in groups to develop and pitch four different FinTech ideas which provides finance support within the homeless community, young adults and parents of teenagers. The workshop allowed students to develop soft skills such as teamwork and presentation skills.

Many of our scheduled careers programme events were postponed due to the current circumstances relating to the Covid-19 outbreak. However, we have been able to use this as an opportunity to tap into our use of technology and conduct remote careers talks. Students signed up to attend live talks delivered by various industry experts, followed by question and answer sessions, all delivered on Google Hangouts Meet conferencing software.

Students have received advice and gained insight into various professions. With an opportunity to be at home and reflect, we look forward to hearing about how students are taking advantage of this time, researching and learning new skills which will develop their future employability and wellbeing.



# Twitter Highlights

You Retweeted



**Career Accelerator** @careeracceler · 13 Mar

Over the last 3 months 10 incredible mentors @LinkedInUK worked with 20 gifted pupils from @LaeTottenham! During these sessions they worked on uni applications, CVs, LinkedIn and strength building . Delighted our bright students get to learn directly from these business leaders!



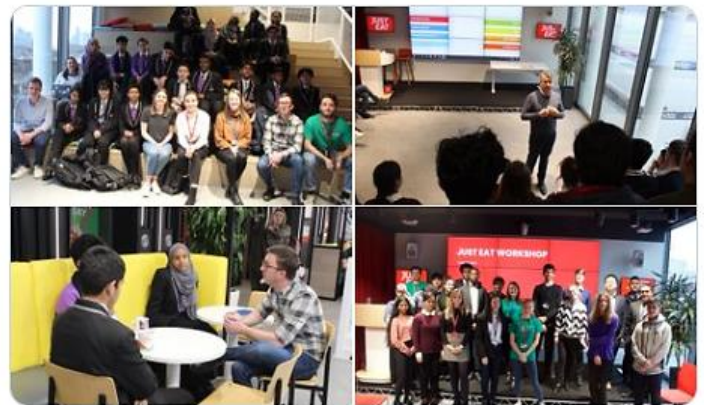
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You Retweeted



**JUST EAT** @JustEatGroup · 12 Mar

We were delighted to welcome students from @LaeTottenham & @ArkElvinAcademy to our #London HQ over the past week. Students heard from our CEO & worked with some of our fantastic @STEMAmbassadors to learn more about working at #JustEat and how to build a successful career in tech!



Career Accelerator 6 15

You Retweeted



**Tottenham Hotspur** @SpursOfficial · 6 Mar

"Spurs have showed me the kind of person I could be. I'm very grateful for that."

Meet 17-year-old Farouk, who for the last six years has been part of our #ToCarelsToDo programme.

This is his story.

#THFC #COYS



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You Retweeted



**Highgate School** @highgate1565 · 5 Mar

Harry Potter fans came in their troves to our highly anticipated quiz! We transformed the library into Hogwarts Great Hall and the pupils thoroughly enjoy the event. @LaeTottenham playing as Beauxbatons Academy of Magic won the shield!



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