

Pride in Our Success at Academy Prize Giving Ceremony



Some of the Prize Winners at The Academy Prize Giving Ceremony

More than a hundred students received awards at the second annual Prize Giving Ceremony at The Skinners' Kent Academy on 30th June.

Prizes were given to students for their achievements across the curriculum and exceptional awards - cups and shields - were given to 17 students for their success in a wide range of areas including sport, charity work and academic achievement. The Master of Skinners'

Court, Mr Hugh Carson, presented the awards. In a rousing speech he said ***"The Skinners' Kent Academy is and always will be a jewel in the Skinners' Company crown."***

Principal, Sian Carr, gave an inspiring speech based on the Olympic themes and had these words of encouragement for all the Academy students: ***"You have lived up to the Academy motto – pride in our success. All the students can hold their***

heads high and be proud today as they sit in this hall. So to all of you, walk tall when you leave today, you are all winners and achievers in my eyes and I'm very proud of you."

At the end of the Ceremony parents, governors, members of The Skinners' Court, Friends of the Academy and local guests, including The Mayor of Tunbridge Wells, Cllr Elizabeth Thomas, joined students and staff on the lawn for tea.

Building Work Begins

The £20million plus contract to provide The Skinners' Kent Academy with new state-of-the-art buildings and ICT facilities is about to be signed (at time of going to print) by Willmott Dixon Construction, the preferred bidder for the scheme, KCC and The Academy. This means that construction works can now begin in earnest with a view to moving into the new building early 2013.

Willmott Dixon will be carrying out enabling works during the first three months to define site boundaries and establish welfare facilities. This will include the erection of hoardings, temporary site offices and contractor's car parking areas.

Principal of The Skinners' Kent Academy Sian Carr said: ***"Everyone at the Academy is extremely excited about the news. This is the start of a brand new future for the Academy."***



Visualisation of the Academy New Build

ON THE SPOT

Year 9 Student Reporters
Francesca Drewett and Katie
Gough interview the county's
finest.

Hugh Carson is the Master of The
Skinners' Court - The Academy is
one of 5 schools in The Skinners'
family.



What is the Skinners' Company? It is one of the oldest of the Great Twelve Guilds in the City of London. The Company received its royal charter in 1327. It existed well before then, making sure that the fur trade was properly regulated and looking after the welfare of the membership. From its earliest days the Skinners were involved in charitable activities. Their interest in education dates back to the 1500s. Today the Company is no longer directly connected with the fur trade. It is involved in the reintroduction of the European Lynx into Iberia though. Its primary interests are educational, housing for the elderly and charitable. We publish an annual review which tells you all about our activities.

How do you become a member? We invite a few pupils from each of our schools to become members annually. (When they first join they are called 'apprentices'). About the same number join the company each year through patrimony – in other words they become Skinners because either their father or mother is a member of the Company.

What do you think is unique about Skinners' Company school education? Each of our Schools is a model of all that is best in education. Each is unique. We select our Heads very carefully, we take great care over our choice of Governors, and we seek to give each of our schools the very best in terms of support and encouragement. Put simply, we believe passionately in the importance of a good education and strive to help each of our schools to succeed.

What are your hopes for The Skinners' Kent Academy? Skinners' Kent Academy has already made great strides both academically and in terms of how everyone feels about the school. The new build will give us a wonderful opportunity to continue the early success of the Academy.

What were you like at school? Were you a good student? I enjoyed games and music at school tremendously and probably devoted more time to them than I should have done, and less that I should to my studies. However, I got away with it and – much to everyone's surprise, especially mine - was made Head Boy. Because of that I was invited to become a Skinner.

Do you wear your robes to all official engagements? Yes most of them, but sometimes we are allowed to take them off – the Beadle seems to be the person who decides whether we may or not do this.

How do you keep cool in your robes at the summer events? Try to keep calm. Funnily enough, and I might be wrong about this, but the robes seem to keep the heat out.

What is your favourite book?
"An Equal Music" by Vikram Seth

And your favourite films?
"Of Gods and Men" and "Amelie" - both French now I come to think about it.

PATHWAY TO INDEPENDENCE

Academy Subject Awards

Outstanding Achievement In PE

Ashlea Shears, Charlotte Chappell, Jack Roberts, Megan Simpson-Howells

Outstanding Effort In PE

Anthony Bryan, Beckham Bancroft, Geminii Parker, Rhys Morling-Chamberlain, Ryan Beenev

Outstanding Achievement In Modern Foreign Languages

Henrique Fonseca, Jack Roberts, Jasmine Gower, Jessie Gifford, Rhys Morling-Chamberlain, Tyler Parker

Outstanding Effort In Modern Foreign Languages

Chloe Gifford, Lucy Bickmore, Macauley Cooper, Lana Robertson, Sam Small, Michael Rozen



congratulations

Student Review Henrique Fonseca, Year 8

The Old Operating Theatre

On our trip to The Old Operating Theatre in London there was a show in the operating room where a man talked about medical treatment in Victorian times and then acted out an operation with one of our students as the patient.

One Academy student was chosen to be the lucky volunteer. The man said he had slipped on the dirty roads and a carriage had trampled his leg, his bone was sticking out. So the patient had to have an operation on his leg.

He had been badly injured on Monday, but they only operated on Fridays, so he had to "wait" five days before he could be put on the table. The man told us what they would do in those days and then acted it out. He strapped his leg to stop the blood flowing and then he had to cut his skin and put his fingers in the cut and PULL back the skin. Then the man had to tie all the veins that were showing with string and then put his hand back in the leg and put the bone pieces into the right place. Then he left the strings on the veins and pulled the skin back into place. After this he did NOT sew the skin back. He just put bandages around the leg and left it for a month or so to heal.

Praise for Academy

The Academy has been awarded the prestigious "Quality in Extended Services" mark for its wide ranging access to services which support staff and particularly the students and also its extensive extra-curricular programme. There are more than 70 different activities and clubs for students to choose from including horse riding, chess, sugar craft and golf. Elaine Pomeroy, Assistant Vice Principal, who organises the programme said: "**Students have expressed real appreciation for these clubs and have benefited by learning new skills and making new friends.**"

Year 11 Students Go To Work



Students

Academy Singers



The newly formed Academy Singers have given some stunning performances this term.

After less than 3 months together the singers sang a beautiful rendition of "Believe" at the recent Prize Giving Ceremony. It was such a powerful performance it moved many to tears, including their drama teacher, Mrs Cripps, who said: ***"Our students are brilliant, they always rise so well to the occasion."***

The Singers, lead by choir master Mrs Singleton, will be performing this and two other songs at The Skinners' Court Lynx Music and Arts Festival at the end of term. The charity gala, in aid of the critically endangered Iberian Lynx cat, will showcase musical and artistic talent from all The Skinners' schools including; The Skinners' School, The Judd School, Tonbridge School, The Skinners' Academy Hackney and of course The Skinners' Kent Academy. The concert will be attended by Heads, parents and members of The Skinners' Court.

Well done to the Academy Singers: Pauline Westhuizen, Georgia Rayner, Aimee Webb, Jasmin Gower, Toni Ashbrook, Siobhan Appleyard, Kerry Atherall, Chloe Walkinton, Sophia Bartlett, Francesca Drewett, Hannah Rayner, Sam Small, Charlie Lucas, Megan Simpson-Howells, Ella Morley, Lucy Baxter and Megan Edwards.

Congratulations also go to Ayla Styles, Aimee Webb, Georgia Fawcett, Kimberly Harris, Tyler Parker, Ella Morley, Jasmine Gower, Pauline Westhuizen, Nathan Gilbert, Chloe Walkinton whose art work will be displayed at the festival.

Passport to ...

Students achieving the 200 VivoMile target were rewarded at the end of term with a "passport to" either The Maritime Museum in Greenwich or a "Japantastic" day of sushi, judo and calligraphy. We hope to see even more students reach their target next year.



From bookshops to beauty and from solicitors to schools the new Year 11s spend the week on work experience.



Work Experience Week at Waterstone's

The vast majority of students go into further education when they leave The Skinners' Kent Academy, but ensuring they have the skills necessary for working life is a priority at the Academy. At the beginning of July all new Year 11s went out for a week of work experience, during which they were encouraged to develop core skills :-

- **Independent enquirer** - work out what questions to ask to solve a problem.
- **Creative thinker** - come up with ideas and possibilities.
- **Reflective Learner** - notice when they or others do things well and learn from experiences
- **Team Worker** - work with others to get things done.
- **Self Manager** - be flexible when given more than one thing to do or when things change.
- **Effective participator** - discuss things that cause concern, suggest ways things can be improved, influence others to get a good outcome.

A big thank you to all the local organisations who have given this great opportunity to the Academy students.

Academy Raises More than £1,700 in Race For Life



Students and Staff at the Race For Life in Dunorlan Park

70 Academy female students and staff took part in the Race for Life in Dunorlan Park on a blustery Sunday in June.

The whole team wore pink Skinners' Kent Academy T-shirts and a few members customised their outfits with boas and

bunny ears. There were some sterling performances on the 5km course and the first students finished in under half an hour. There were also some brilliant fundraising efforts, with some students individually raising several hundred pounds. The total currently stands at just over £1,700.00.



Year 11 Student at the Downe Activity Centre

Adventure

It's been a busy few weeks for the new Year 11s. 28 students went to Downe Activity Centre in Biggin Hill for a weekend of rock climbing, abseiling, archery, shooting and a variety of other activities. Students thoroughly enjoyed this experience and are already planning the next adventure in March 2012.

Science & Engineering



DO TRY THIS AT HOME ~ EASY EXPERIMENTS

Instant Ice Cream



To create instant ice cream you need to have two sealable sandwich bags - one large, one small.

In the larger bag put a tray of ice and 4 tablespoons of salt, then place

the smaller bag into the larger bag. In the smaller bag put 120ml of milk and a tablespoon of sugar, half a teaspoon of

vanilla essence and food colouring of your choice. Seal the bag tightly.

Now make sure that both bags are sealed tightly with the smaller bag with your mixture in inside the larger bag with the ice and salt. Now you can start shaking! This will freeze your ice cream mixture. After about 5 minutes open up the bag and check if it is frozen, if not then put it back in and shake some more.

Perfect for a sunny day!

SPORT REPORT



Sam Wheeler, Year 7, Academy Sports Correspondent

Hello and welcome to this year's final sports report. This term has been a great term for sport at the Academy.

In this sport report I will be focusing on our annual Sports Day which was held (partly) on Tuesday 28th June. In the morning we had the choice of cricket, football or rounders matches to choose from, the boys and the girls were invited to take part in any of the morning events.

The winners of the events were Brunel in rounders, Darwin in football (by a tight winning scoreline of one goal) and Brunel in the cricket. We then moved on to the athletics events in the afternoon which everyone was looking forward to especially their particular chosen event. Due to the weather changing so dramatically and so quickly all of the events had to be postponed until the following morning.

The next day the weather was perfect for track and field events. There were lots of competitions including the javelin, discus, long jump and track

events. The final event of the morning was the relay race which was very exciting. The whole morning was a great success and very entertaining. Lots of students thought it was a better idea to have the Sports Day in the morning after the success of this one.

The winning house was
BRUNEL
- Well Done!



Academy CALENDAR

25 Aug	GCSE Results Day
1 Sep	INSET Day - No Students
2 Sep	New Year 7s Start
5 Sep	All Other Students Start
9 Sep	Year 7 Carrot Wood Trip
27 Sep	Open Event for Prospective Students
17 Oct	Enrichment Week Begins 6th Form Information Evening
24 Oct	Half Term



Year 7 Intake On The Rise

Intake at the Academy is up 50% on last year and the Senior Leadership is encouraged by the increasing numbers of students coming from local primaries, with at least 5 students each from Claremont and St James' due to start in September.

Mr Tompkins, Vice Principal, said *"It has been a very good year for the Academy - our new build is about to start and the interim Ofsted report noted that our students are making at least good progress and an increasing number are making outstanding progress. We are delighted an increasing number of families are making The Skinners' Kent Academy their number one choice."*

If you would like to visit the Academy:
Open Event:
27th September 4:00-7:00.
Academy Tours:
Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
10 - 11am and 11:30 - 12:30am
From 13th September to 20th October

If you have a story or any feedback please contact Talya Roberson e: talya.roberson@skinnerskentacademy.org.uk
The Skinners' Kent Academy, Blackhurst Lane, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 4 PY