



New Members of the Team

As the school continues to grow, so does the level of expertise within it. Saayoub Izaz joins our Governing Body and currently works for Bart's Health Care Trust as an Elective Care Improvement Manager. Lisa Sage also joins the Governing Body and has a background in primary education. Dr Cat Halligan joins as our Educational Psychologist and Mental Health Lead. Ruhi Metha was previously an accountant at Pricewater House for 30 years before enrolling on the apprenticeship programme as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Holly Keller-Copper joins as our new Art teacher and Terresa Poland joins the Paths team. Welcome!

Youth Volunteer Coordinator

Guy Domb is the Royal Free Charity's new Youth Volunteer Coordinator. Guy organises volunteering opportunities for young people over 16 to 21 at both the Royal Free Hospital and Konstam sites. Previously, we have worked closely with undergraduate students from University College London, who have provided valuable one-to-one tutoring over a wide range of subjects during lessons and at lunchtimes. Those interested should contact guy via: guy.domb@royalfreecharity.org



After School Enrichment

Having our own dedicated building at Konstam means we are able to explore greater opportunities for after school activities. If you have any particular interests, or there is an additional subject that you might want to study, please let your tutor know as soon as possible. For those interested in space, we'll be taking advantage of the still, dark, winter sky, with the possibility to study for the Astronomy GCSE next summer. Additional Music should also be on offer.

Message from the Headteacher

I hosted a number of colleagues from the National Association for Hospital Education last week who were very impressed with our new home at RFHCS Konstam in Highgate: "Wonderful transformation of a historic building to serve the needs of young people in Camden" "Wonderful to see our children having access to quality learning spaces." A huge thank you to Melissa Johns for cutting the cake at our grand opening just before half-term and to all the former pupils, parents and staff who came along to celebrate with us including Councillor Marcus Boyland - Cabinet Member for Best Start for Children and Families whose support has been invaluable. We'd also like to thank Dean Marshall and his team of contractors for the incredible job they did in bringing in the project on time and on budget. We have also welcomed a number of new members to both the teaching and support staff and the governing body this term and are very excited by a number of new developments which I hope to be able to report back on in the next newsletter.

Alex Yates



Konstam Grand Opening



Jack Petchey Achievement Awards

This term's well-deserved winners of The Jack Petchey Achievement Award are Gustavo and Maya. Gustavo was identified by staff and fellow young people for his increased confidence and independence since starting in September. Maya was nominated as the Spirit of the Camp, at Camp Charnwood, a specialist activity camp for children and their families living with diabetes. Maya has organised a pizza evening of fun and games for families to network.



Dates for Academic Year 2023-24:

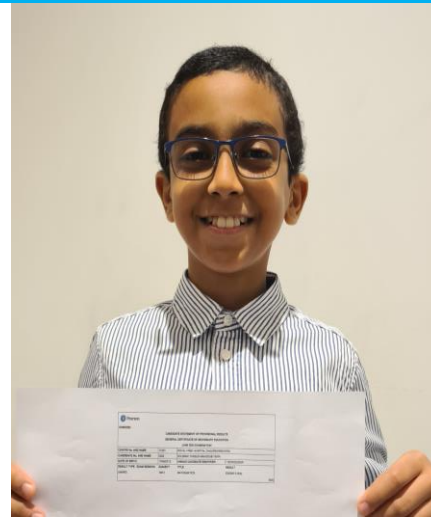
- Autumn term 1 Wed 6 Sep - Fri 20 Oct
- Autumn term 2 Tue 31 Oct - Thu 21 Dec
- Spring term 1 Tues 9 Jan - Fri 9 Feb
- Spring term 2 Mon 19 Feb - Thurs 28 Mar
- Summer term 1 Mon 15 Apr - Fri 24 May
- Summer term 2 Mon 3 June - Mon 22 July

2023-24 INSET Days:

- 1. Mon 4 Sept 2023
- 2. Tues 5 Sep 2023
- 3. Mon 8 Jan 2024
- 4. Tues 23 July 2024
- 5. Wed 24 July 2024

Examination News

As a hospital school, we go to great lengths to ensure young people with medical needs or outside mainstream education have a local and affordable option to take GCSEs and A levels. This year, we accommodated 33 private candidates, one of whom was 11 year old Yaseen, who wanted to take his GCSE Maths exam in the last year of primary school. He scored almost 100%! In his words: "I've always had a deep passion for maths and science. Taking the GCSE Maths this summer was quite a challenge at Year 6, but I'm excited to keep pushing myself and aim for a higher level next summer, all in pursuit of my dream to study aeronautical engineering at MIT". Amazing!



London Brighton Fantastic Fundraising

Tom Green, Ted Malden, Sandy Hendry and Steve Green, raised over £5000 cycling to Brighton (and almost back) for the Royal Free Charity. The school would like to send a huge thanks to Bloomberg, who match-funded the money raised by Sandy. The money will be used to help young people and their families attend a specialist week long diabetes camp. Without this money, many families from our Trust would simply find this valuable experience just too expensive; so well done to the fantastic school team!



Destinations 2023

We are particularly pleased with the outcomes of the Futures class of 2023. Almost without exception, every young person of this class is currently in employment, education or training. Considering many were missing school for over 2 years before starting, and having to cover GCSE courses in 2 terms rather than 2 years, this is an exceptional achievement of which they should be very proud. Many of our young people have gone on to study A levels at local schools and colleges, and BTEC Forensic Science and practical courses such as Animal Care at Capel Manor also proved popular choices. Sophie, opposite, becomes our second young person to enrol on the Nursing Apprenticeship course. Well done!



Health Careers Conference at the RF

This month our young people were lucky enough to attend a careers conference organised by the Royal Free Hospital, introducing the various career opportunities available in medicine. Staff were on hand from Oncology, Anaesthetics, Audiology, Paediatric Nursing, Surgical, Ophthalmology, Respirator, Endocrine and Pharmacy departments to explain the details of their jobs and the available career pathways and qualifications required to access each role. This was a highly informative, well organised event, with many questions answered.

A Virtual Reality Star

Talya was so impressed with the care and kindness she received on the ward during a recent admission, that once she returned home she set about raising money for the Children's School. She raised £420.00 and would like the money to be spent on something that would benefit both the ward and the classroom. A Virtual Reality headset proved very useful in reducing stress whilst waiting for operations, so this is how we will invest the donation. Thank you so much Talya!



You're Invited!

Students have full access via the Google Classroom to every lesson taught at school. Each lesson signposted by the week, with keywords highlighted in bold and learning objectives clearly explained. The classroom also contains relevant videos, worksheets and instructional PowerPoints parents and carers can also follow once they accept the invitation, obtaining weekly updates. Please check your email.

